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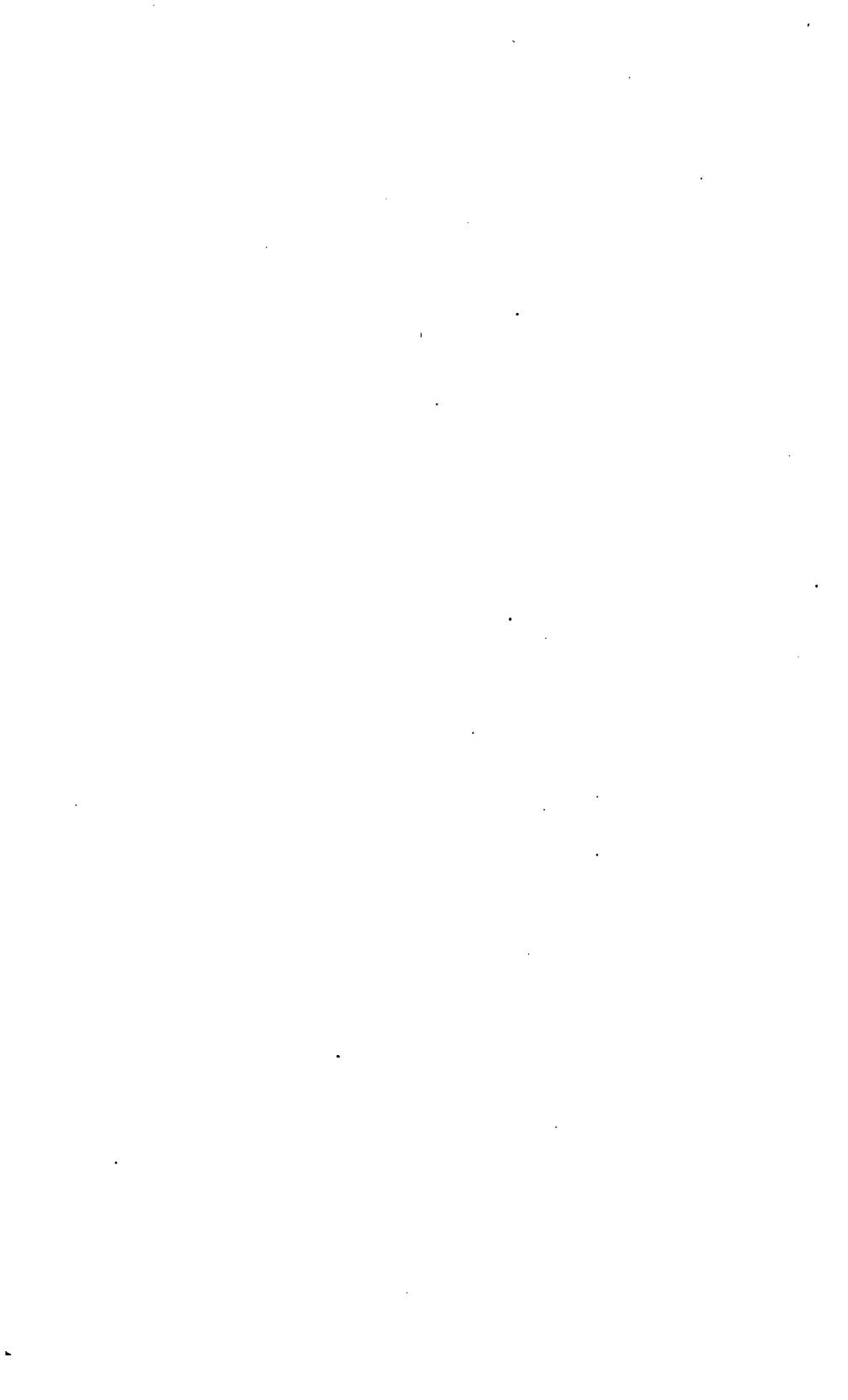


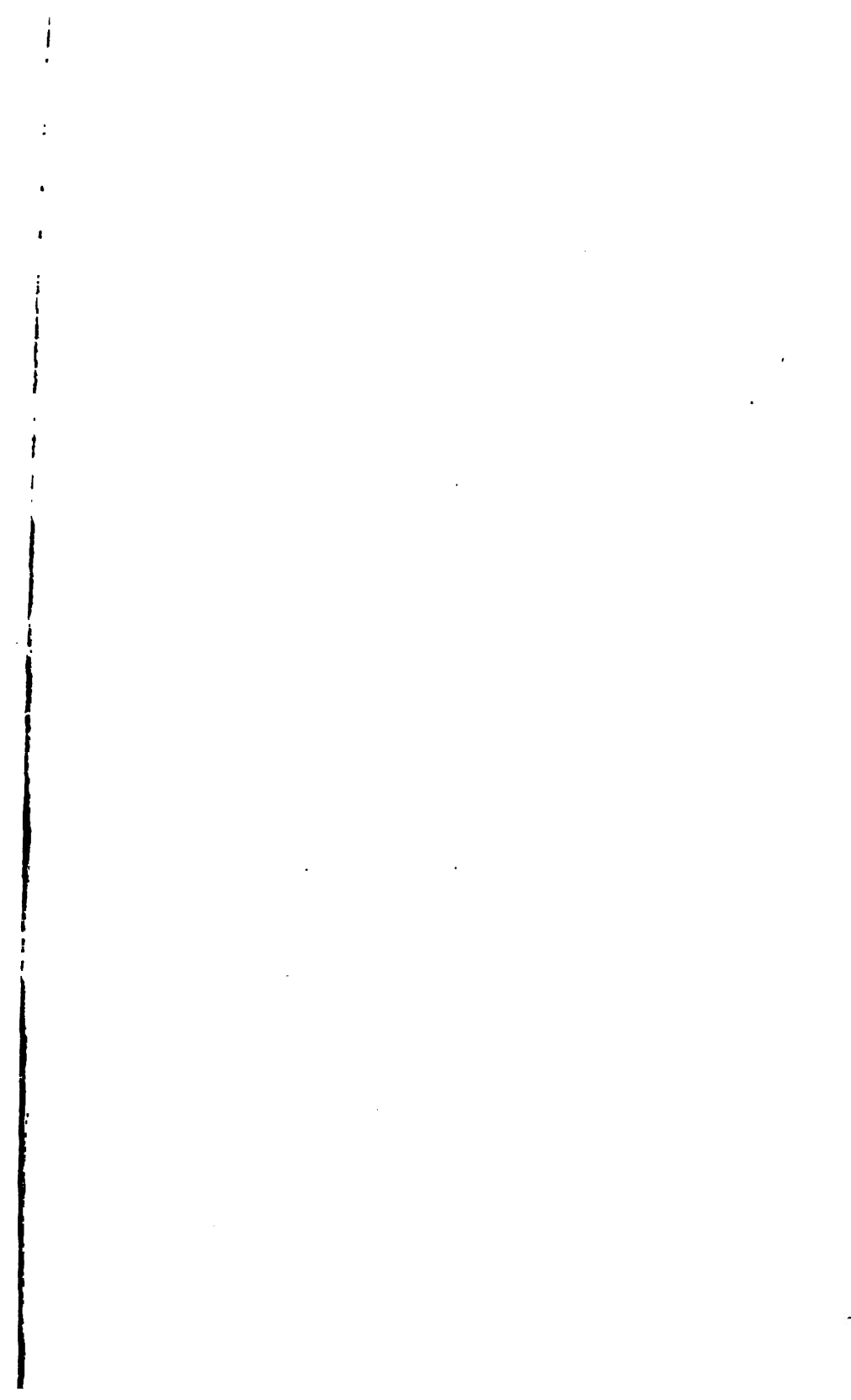
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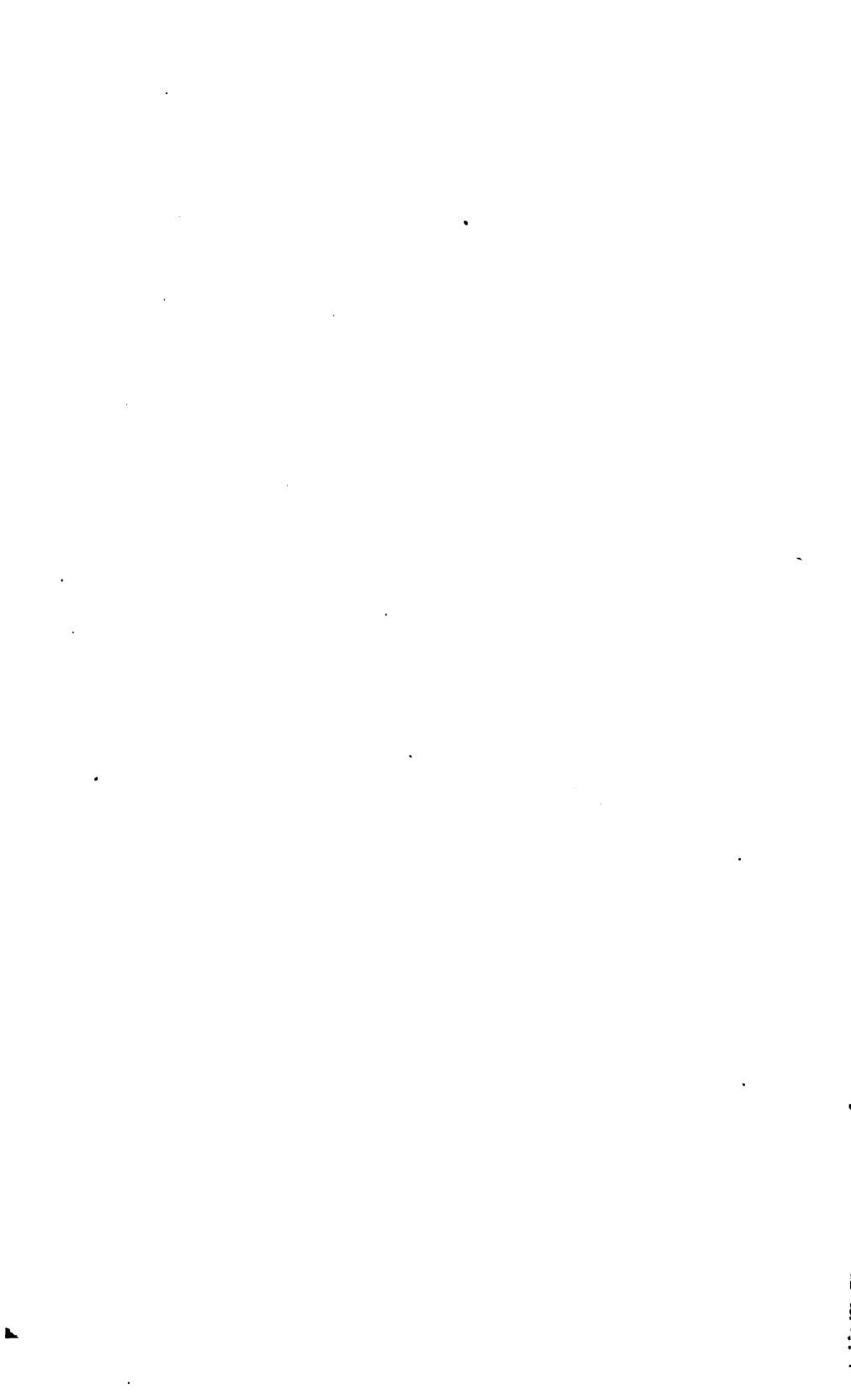
FROM

N. C. Lane









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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

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14th - 18th
FOURTEENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

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Young Men's Christian Associations

of North America
OF THE

UNITED STATES AND BRITISH PROVINCES,

HELD AT PORTLAND,

JULY, 1869.

New-York :

PUBLISHED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

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H. G. Lane.

PREFATORY NOTE.

The proceedings of the Fourteenth International Convention of the Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces are herewith submitted. In justice to themselves, the Executive Committee must disclaim all responsibility for the delay which has attended this publication—desiring only to say that, on their own part nothing has been left undone to facilitate the issue of the journal. This delay is very properly a subject of impatient regret on the part of all who love our work and who wish its continued advancement. It will, we need not say, be our aim to prevent a recurrence of this unfortunate cause of complaint.

These minutes of the Portland Convention will serve to illustrate, more practically and more powerfully than has ever before been done, the work of the Christian Association enterprise, and the modes of carrying it on. In these pages will be found a measurably faithful picture of religious earnestness, Christian unity and Spiritual brotherhood, as manifested by the eight hundred workers who responded to the call to Portland, and the Associations which sent them. It is not for us to say that no more profitable or practical Convention has ever been held in America; but leaving that opinion for others to express, we may with propriety affirm that, as a gathering of the bone and sinew of the Church of Christ—of the men who confessedly are foremost in every good word and work, of the men who are soon to take up and bear onward the Lord's Ark towards the ultimate conquest of our country for Christ—the Portland Convention was a success beyond precedent. The most cursory glance at the following records will enforce this conviction.

We therefore submit the Journal of Proceedings with the fullest confidence that it contains a comparatively complete presentation of the work in which we are all so much interested, together with many suggestions worth heeding as to the future management of the important trust assumed by the hundred thousand young men banded into the Christian Association brotherhood.

Encouraged we have the right to feel, as we look back upon what God hath wrought for us; but satisfied, never, until there shall be no longer a field for our peculiar mission, no longer a soul to save, and no longer a vineyard to be tilled. God helping us, brethren, let us gird on anew our armor, with the determination to plant our banner firmly in every city and town on this Continent, and in waging unceasing war upon the Man of Sin, let us look forward trustingly for the victory, until He shall come whose right it is to reign!

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FOURTEENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION.

CIRCULAR OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, CALLING THE
CONVENTION.

161 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW-YORK, }
May 24th, 1869. }

To the Young Men's Christian Association of

DEAR BRETHREN: As authorized by the resolution adjourning the Detroit Convention, and after conference with the Reception Committee of the Portland Association, the Executive Committee hereby designate the 14th day of July next for the meeting in Conference of THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES AND BRITISH PROVINCES, at the City of Portland. The meeting for organization will be held at three o'clock in the afternoon of that day.

The basis of representation, as fixed at the two preceding Conventions, allows three Delegates to all Associations having one hundred members or less; one additional Delegate for each additional one hundred of members, or fraction exceeding fifty, but no delegation can embrace more than fifteen members. The computation of membership for this purpose is to embrace *all active* members of the Associations who have paid their dues.

All arrangements in regard to railroad and steamboat routes, reduction of fare, and entertainment of Delegates, will be set forth in a circular, shortly to be issued by the Portland Association, whose Reception Committee is now actively engaged in this laborious work. It is hoped that this circular will answer, at a sufficiently early period, most of the necessary questions in regard to the preliminary matters of the Convention, and, thus, few merely formal letters of inquiry to either of the Committees be required on the part of those intending to attend the Convention.

The Executive Committee proposes to submit to the Convention the following, as among the important topics demanding careful consideration and practical action.

I.—The need of Buildings constructed for and owned by the Associations, and the plans for the accumulation of Building Funds.

II.—Monthly, Social and Business Meetings of the Associations ; the objects of each, and how each best conducted.

III.—What forms of Christian effort, outside the special work for which the Associations are organized, have been most successful, and how have these been prosecuted ?

IV.—How may the German young men of the country be reached by our influence ?

In connection with this topic, Rev. E. W. Rice, of the Milwaukee Association, will be invited to read an essay prepared by him, on the invitation of the Executive Committee, for the Detroit Convention.

V.—The relation of the Associations on this continent to each other, as independent organizations, but similarly constituted, and having a common work and aim ; and their united power in promoting the cause of Christ among the young men of America.

VI.—Personal consecration to Christ essential to real success in Associational work, in its grandest phase, the conversion of young men.

It is presumed that the Lecture Bureau, created under a resolution of the last Convention, will submit a report of its work for the year, together with such suggestions as may be deemed material in regard to future efforts.

The Report of the Executive Committee will embrace some propositions in regard to the prosecution of the general work of the Associations, and also a report of the Pacific Railroad Mission. There will be no lack of matter claiming the attention of all the delegates to the Convention throughout the whole of its session.

Let every Association determine, if possible, to be represented at Portland by its very best men, by men who shall personify the spirituality, the energy, the culture, the love for our peculiar work whereby each Association is willing to be judged. The membership should be closely scanned, in order to secure the selection of such delegates as shall concentrate in the Convention a body of representative young Christians, to whose devotion and earnestness a full recognition will be accorded, not merely for the moment, but during the years to come. It is not necessary to send the delegates of former years, and the fact of previous attendance need not be deemed a man's best title to further honor in this direction, unless the journals of the Convention bear witness to his usefulness and influence in forwarding Association work by his presence. Select and send your very best men.

It should be our prayer and expectation that the approaching Convention may be the most successful and memorable one of all the series—in its fervor, its high tone, its powerful and permanent spiritual effects—and in its results of good fruit in the vineyard which we are aiming to cultivate.

Again, the delegates should bear upon their consciences the responsibility of so placing their respective Associations properly and creditably before the Convention, in the matter of statistics, facts, and reports, as shall add practical interest to the Conference. Every Association in America is invited to send one or more representatives, and thus put itself *on record* as a live, working organization. But, with your delegates, brethren, do not fail to send such a statement of your condition and your work as will enable the Executive Committee to spread before the country in the next "Journal" a complete summary of the work we are engaged in, and the workers whom God uses to perform it. Unless the delegates look carefully to this, they and we will fail to accomplish an important duty.

We remain, your brethren in the Lord,

CEPHAS BRAINERD,	} <i>Executive Committee.</i>
WILLIAM F. LEE,	
JAMES STOKES, JR.,	
TIMOTHY G. SELLEW, JR.,	
THOMAS COCHRAN, JR.,	
ROSWELL MILLER.	

CIRCULAR OF PORTLAND Y. M. C. ASSOCIATION.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION ROOMS,
 Corner of Congress and Brown Streets,
 PORTLAND, ME., June 24, 1869. }

To the Young Men's Christian Association of

DEAR BRETHREN: You have already been informed by the Executive Committee, that the Fourteenth Annual Convention of Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces, will be held at Portland, Maine, commencing on the 14th day of July, 1869.

We cordially second the call of the Executive Committee, and trust that you will (if you have not already) select your best men to represent you at that time; those whose practical and personal experience in the work of the Association, will aid us in the solution of the great question, "How we can work the most successfully for Christ through the agency of these Associations." And we can assure you that it will be a pleasure to us to extend to them a cordial welcome to our city and our homes.

It is earnestly desired, that, as soon as your Delegates are elected you will send us their names at least ten days before the session of the Convention, and the probability of their attendance at that time.

The basis of representation as fixed at the two preceding Conventions allows three Delegates to all Associations having one hundred members or less, and for every additional hundred members or fraction of one hundred exceeding fifty, one additional Delegate will be allowed; but no Delegation can embrace more than FIFTEEN MEMBERS. The computation of membership for this purpose is to embrace *all active* members of the Association who have paid their dues.

On the arrival of the trains and steamboats, Delegates will be met by some of the members and conducted to the rooms of the Association, corner of Congress and Brown streets, where they will be assigned places of entertainment. Delegates arriving by the late evening trains will report at the rooms on the following morning. It is desirable that each Delegate should wear a white ribbon or badge, bearing the name of their Association, that they may be easily recognized. While we hope to see a large repre-

sensation of friends of the Association present at the Convention, we cannot be expected to provide free entertainment to any but officially accredited Delegates.

The proprietors of the following hotels have reduced their fares to those who present credentials as Delegates, and desire thus to be accommodated at their own expense :


United States Hotel, junction Congress and Middle Streets, \$2.00 per day.

Preble House, corner Congress and Preble Streets, \$2.00 per day.

The Convention will meet for organization, Wednesday afternoon, July 14th, at 3 o'clock, at the State Street Congregational Church, where the sessions of the Convention will be held. The Welcome Meeting will be held on Wednesday evening, July 14, and the closing meeting on Sunday evening, July 18, at the City Hall.

TRAVELING ARRANGEMENTS.

The following list embraces the Railroad and Steamboat Companies with which we have made arrangements for reduced fare,—not all we have endeavored to secure,—some refusing to grant our request therefor ; others neglecting to notice such, by any reply. These we commend, on this and other occasions, to your preference, for their liberality and willingness to oblige.

 Please notice, particularly, the kind of arrangements with each Road, that trouble to yourselves or railroad employees be avoided.

We are under great obligation to Bro. Edward Danforth, of Albany, N. Y., for his valuable assistance.

The following Railroad and Steamboat Companies will grant FREE RETURNS to members in attendance upon the Convention, by the same route over which, respectively, they paid full fare in coming, upon the certificate of the Chairman of the Railroad Committee, at Portland :

ERIE RAILWAY (including the ATLANTIC AND GREAT WESTERN ROAD), from Cleveland, Cincinnati, Dunkirk, Buffalo, and intermediate places, to Binghamton and New-York.

SHORE LINE RAILROAD, from New Haven, &c., to New London.

STONINGTON AND PROVIDENCE RAILROAD, from New London, &c., to Providence.

BOSTON AND PROVIDENCE RAILROAD, from Providence, &c., to Boston

ALBANY AND SUSQUEHANNAH RAILROAD, from Binghamton, &c., to Albany.

RENSSELAER AND SARATOGA RAILROAD (including, also, the SCHENECTADY AND SARATOGA, SARATOGA AND WHITEHALL, WHITEHALL AND RUTLAND, AND RUTLAND AND WASHINGTON RAILROADS), from Albany, Troy, Schenectady, &c., to Whitehall and Rutland.

CHAMPLAIN STEAMERS, from Whitehall and Plattsburgh, to Burlington.

RUTLAND AND BURLINGTON, AND VERMONT VALLEY RAILROADS, from Burlington, Rutland, &c., to Bellow's Falls.

CHESHIRE AND ASHUELOT RAILROAD, from Bellow's Falls, &c., to Fitchburg.

FITCHBURG RAILROAD, from Fitchburg, Groton Junction, &c., to Boston.

VERMONT CENTRAL RAILROAD and Branches, from St. John's, Rouse's Point, Burlington, &c., to White River Junction and Bellow's Falls

NORTHERN RAILROAD (N. H.), from White River Junction, &c., to Concord.

CONCORD AND PORTSMOUTH RAILROAD, from Concord, Manchester, &c., to New Market Junction,—connecting with BOSTON AND MAINE RAILROAD, for Portland.

OSWEGO AND SYRACUSE RAILROAD.

SYRACUSE, BINGHAMTON AND NEW-YORK RAILROAD.

ROME, WATERTOWN AND OGDENSBURG RAILROAD, from Oswego, Rome, &c., to Ogdensburg and Potsdam Junction.

OGDENSBURG AND LAKE CHAMPLAIN RAILROAD, from Ogdensburg, Potsdam Junction, &c., to Rouse's Point.

DAY LINE OF STEAMBOATS on the Hudson ("Daniel Drew" and "Chauncey Vibbard"), between New-York and Albany.

TROY AND NEW-YORK STEAMBOAT COMPANY ("Vanderbilt" and "Connecticut"), between New-York and Troy, or Albany.

GRAND TRUNK RAILROAD and Branches, from Detroit and intermediate places to Portland.

EASTERN, and BOSTON AND MAINE, and PORTLAND, SACO AND PORTSMOUTH RAILROADS, to Portland. Leave Boston 7½ A. M., 12 M., and 3 P. M., arrive 12½, 5, and 8 P. M.

PORTLAND, BANGOR AND MACHIAS STEAMERS.

PORTLAND AND ROCHESTER RAILROAD.

OTHER ARRANGEMENTS.

NEW HAVEN STEAMBOAT COMPANY (Steamers "Continental" and "Elm City,") will carry between New York (Pier 25, East River) and New Haven, for 75 cents each way, those provided with credentials from the Associations they represent.

PORTLAND AND BOSTON STEAMERS, from Boston and return, \$2.00. Leave Boston 7 P. M., arrive 4 A. M.

ST. JOHN STEAMERS. St. John to Portland and return, \$5.00 specie. Eastport and return, \$5.00 currency.

BOSTON AND BALTIMORE STEAMSHIP COMPANY. Southern Delegates can take steamers by this line at Norfolk, July 1, 5, and 8. Tickets, including state rooms and meals, to Boston, \$12.00 each way.

The following railroads agree to furnish free return tickets to delegates showing their credentials and paying full fare one way :

MAINE CENTRAL RAILROAD.

KENNEBEC AND PORTLAND RAILROAD.

CHICAGO, BURLINGTON AND QUINCY RAILROAD.

It is hoped that this Convention will prove a blessing not only to our own Association and city, but to all who attend its sessions, and its influence be felt by all Associations represented here. Come, then, brethren, with an earnest desire and prayer that this may be the result.

Please address communications to HENRY H. BURGESS, Box 2194, Portland, Me.

ANDREW J. CHASE, *President* P. Y. M. C. A.

JAMES E. HAZELTINE, *Chairman Ex. Com.*

HENRY H. BURGESS, *Cor. Secretary.*

JOHN RUSSELL, *Rec. Secretary.*

RULES OF THE CONVENTION.

1. The order of each day's proceedings shall be as follows : Devotional Exercises—Reading of Minutes—Calls for Resolutions, Memorials, and Propositions—Reading of Communications—Reports of Standing Committees—Reports of Special Committees—Unfinished Business.

2. Immediately after the organization is completed, the President shall appoint the following standing Committees, each to consist of seven members :

A Committee on Associations, to which shall be referred all matters touching the Associations in their individual and united action ;

A Business Committee, to whom shall be referred all business of a general nature ;

A Committee on Public and Devotional Meetings.

But the Convention may refer any business to a Special Committee or to the Committee of the Whole, at its pleasure.

A Special Committee of three shall be appointed by the President at the opening session, to which all resolutions, memorials, and propositions shall be handed on or before the second day of the session of the Convention, each paper to contain the name of the proposer and the name of the Association he represents. These resolutions to be at once referred to the Committee without reading.

3. After the appointment of the Committees, memorials, resolutions and propositions shall be referred by the President, without action or debate, to a Standing Committee, unless the Convention shall refer the same to a Select Committee, or to the Committee of the Whole ; and this rule of reference shall apply to all business brought before the Convention, except such as is incidental in its character.

4. The Convention, at any time, may resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, and consider, in a general form, any proposition or matter appertaining to the Associations, with a view to develop the experience of the Associations and the opinions of Delegates upon the subjects under consideration ; and at the close of its discussions thereon, the Committee shall report its conclusions to the Convention for its action ; the report to be prepared and submitted for such reference to the Committee of the Whole, by the Standing Committee, to whose jurisdiction the matter under discussion relates, unless the Committee of the Whole shall appoint a Special Committee to prepare and submit the report.

5. No Committee shall sit while the Convention is in session, without special permission.

6. All Committees shall be appointed by the Chair, unless otherwise ordered ; and shall report matters referred to them, unless otherwise instructed, previous to the last business session of the Convention.

7. All reports of Committees shall be numbered and placed upon a docket,

and brought up in regular order in Convention, except such as shall be referred to the Committee of the Whole.

8. No member shall speak more than once on any question, until others who wish have spoken, nor more than ten minutes, without unanimous consent ; and this rule shall prevail in Committee of the Whole.

9. All motions shall be reduced to writing before they are put to vote.

10. The vote, when desired by five members of different Associations, on any proposition, shall be taken by yeas and nays, and recorded. In such cases, each Association shall be entitled to one vote, which shall be cast by a majority of its delegates present.

11. Pending any question it shall always be in order to move that the debate close, which motion shall be put without discussion, in this form : " Shall the question be now put ?"

12. The Convention may at any time suspend the rules for a specified object by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

Proceedings of the Convention.

FIRST DAY.—WEDNESDAY, JULY 14, 1869.

THE Fourteenth Annual International Convention of the Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces met at 3 o'clock P.M., Wednesday, July 14, 1869, in the State Street Congregational Church at Portland, Me., and was called to order by H. Thane Miller of Cincinnati, Ohio, (President of the last Convention), who invoked the Divine Presence.

J. R. Sypher, of Philadelphia, Pa., was chosen temporary Secretary. The hymn—

“And are we yet alive?”

was sung, followed by prayer by Rev. Howard Crosby, D.D., of New-York.

Appropriate selections from the Scriptures, read by the Rev. A. J. Gordon, of Jamaica Plain, Mass., and Rev. J. McC. Holmes, of Hudson, N. Y., singing of the hymn—

“All hail the power of Jesus' name,”

and prayer by Rev. Lewis R. Fiske, of Detroit, Michigan, constituted the opening services. Preliminary to business, the Convention engaged for a few moments in silent prayer.

Mr. Miller, the presiding officer, addressed the Convention.

After declaring his fixed purpose not to be a candidate for reelection to the Presidency, he spoke of the first work of organized Associations of the kind here represented, in Germany; of their successful labors afterwards in London, England; of their beginnings in this country, up to the time of holding the Eleventh International Convention. He said that when the meeting held in Montreal showed that the entire membership of the year before

(16,000) had been doubled, and that when afterwards 70,000, and this year 90,000 was reported as the membership of these organizations; when year after year many conversions were reported, and numerous new Associations were forming; when it was known to him that during the past year 3,450 new conversions were attributable, under God, to the work of these bands of Christian young men; when it was known that the Associations now held property to the value of \$1,400,000, he felt it in his own heart to say, "The Lord hath done great things for us, for which we are *very* glad." They were met to discover causes of defeats; to learn the means which God has blessed; to prepare for the multiplication of victories in the future. The Greeks anciently assembled to learn the will of their kings. We assemble that we may learn the will of the King of kings, so that we may be prepared to proclaim that will with bold hearts and voices. Not all had been done that should have been. He thought there had been, in some cases, too much "elbow help," too much leaning upon one another. They must realize their personal, individual responsibility. He thought that want of experience had sometimes led to indiscretions. He believed that want of co-operation on the part of pastors had often led to disastrous consequences. Our discussions will do good. We shall succeed. Action brings its own reward. Almighty God has promised He will be with us. Many have already been saved. Many have been fed and clothed. Sons have been returned to fathers and mothers, whose steps they were bringing with sorrow to the grave. Husbands have been restored to wives, who were dying of a broken heart. Be not faint, but persevere. Renewedly buckle on the whole armor. There are 7,000,000 young men in our land. Only 250,000 are Christians. Go forth bravely. So work that when you come to lie down in old age, it shall not be in gathering darkness, but in a spot where there are emerald isles and the bloom of spring. Not as one who feels his work unfinished, but like a brother* who recently went as the first delegate from our Association at Detroit to the spirit land, saying, "my head reels, I must stop;" and you shall hear the plaudit, "Well done good and faithful servants; enter ye into the joy of your Lord."

* Rev. Dr. Duffield

The President closed his speech with prayer, the Convention joining him in the repetition of the Lord's Prayer.

On motion of W. J. Carlton, of Elizabeth, N. J., a Committee on Credentials was appointed, and the following persons named by the President as its members: W. J. Carlton, Elizabeth, N. J.; Geo. E. Berteaux, St. Johns, N. B.; Lewis A. Hyde, Norwich, Conn.; W. H. Fisher, Utica, N. Y.; Dr. H. G. O. Cary, Zanesville, O.; J. N. Seely, Clinton, Iowa; G. H. Grant, Richmond, Ind.

On motion of D. W. Glass, of Baltimore, Md., the Rules of the last Convention were adopted for the government of this.

On motion of Wm. G. Crowell, of Philadelphia, Pa., a committee of one from each State and Province, on permanent organization, was appointed. It consisted of Wm. G. Crowell, Philadelphia, Pa.; John Ransom, Colchester, Conn.; H. L. Chamberlain, San Francisco, Cal.; Sheriff Thomas, Hamilton, Ontario; J. Redpath Dougall, Montreal, Quebec; L. E. Sleigh, Washington, D. C.; Wm. A. Willis, Des Moines, Iowa; Rev. J. D. Brandt, Indianapolis, Ind.; H. H. Ricker, Portland, Me.; S. K. Parlin, Boston, Mass.; D. W. Glass, Baltimore, Md.; W. J. Crosby, Grand Rapids, Mich.; D. L. Moody, Chicago, Ill.; A. L. Proctor, St. Louis, Mo.; John S. Rand, Portsmouth, N. H.; David C. English, M. D., New Brunswick, N. J.; Robert Weidensall, Omaha; W. W. Randolph, Pictou, Nova Scotia; J. E. Irwins, St. Johns, N. B.; Alfred Wickes, Brooklyn, N. Y.; E. L. Taylor, Columbus, Ohio; R. A. Sprague, Charlottetown, P. E. Island; Edward S. Babbitt, Bristol, R. I.; M. Warner, Charleston, S. C.; C. L. Ramsden, Shoreham, Vt.; Henry J. Cowles, Madison, Wis.; W. H. Irwin, Wheeling, West Va.

The following temporary Business Committee was also nominated: John I. Platt, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.; Thomas K. Cree, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Rev. R. H. Williams, Frederick, Md.; F. D. Taylor, Detroit, Mich.; Rev. H. M. Stevens, Kansas City, Mo.; H. S. Davis, Cleveland, Ohio; Daniel Wilson, L.L.D., Toronto, Ontario.

On motion of Andrew J. Chase, President of the Portland Association, Wm. H. Doane, of Cincinnati, was requested to lead the public singing of the Convention.

Pending the reports of the various committees, the Convention

sang "A Charge to Keep I Have," and engaged in devotional services.

Rev. J. McC. Holmes, of Hudson, N. Y., in behalf of the Christian ladies of that place, presented to the Convention a beautiful white silken banner, bearing the motto "Jesus in everything and everything in Jesus." It was accepted in behalf of the Convention by President Miller, and its sentiment adopted as the future watchword of every member.

Franklin Lyon, of Albany, N. Y., offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention are hereby extended to the ladies, members of the Young Men's Christian Association of the City of Hudson, N. Y., for their very kind regard and remembrance of this body, in sending this beautiful banner for our use during this session ; and may the words so beautifully inscribed upon it, be the expression of our hearts.

Prayer was offered by Franklin Lyon, of Albany, N. Y.

The Christian salutations and greetings of the National Camp Meeting (in session at Round Lake, N. Y.,) were conveyed to the Convention by the following despatch :

ROUND LAKE, N. Y., July 14, 1869.

To the President of the International Convention of Young Men's Christian Associations, Portland, Me. :

Fraternal greetings of the National Camp Meeting to the International Convention of Young Men's Christian Associations, "Grace, mercy and peace, from God, our Father, and Jesus Christ our Lord." Let "holiness to the Lord," be the motto upon our common Christian banner. Thousands of believers here are praying for you to-day in the language of Paul ; see Ephesians, third chapter, from fourteenth to twenty-first verses.

(Signed) J. S. INSKIP,
GEORGE HUGHES,
ALFRED COOKMAN.

This despatch, together with a letter from the Colored Y. M. C. A., of Washington, D. C., and a telegram from the Y. M. C. A., of Baltimore, Md., were referred to the Business Committee, who were instructed to reply.

On motion of George E. Lovejoy, of Lowell, Mass., a committee on Open Air Meetings was appointed and the following delegates named to compose it: Geo. E. Lovejoy, Lowell, Mass. ; N. D. Curtis, Portland, Me. ; E. A. Whittier, Lowell, Mass. ;

Wm. F. Lee, New-York ; Geo. A. Hall, Washington, D. C. ; J. G. Joslin, Keene, N. H. ; E. F. Vose, Westerly, R. I.

On motion of John Wanamaker, of Philadelphia, Pa., the members of the press present, were constituted honorary and Corresponding Members of the Convention, which motion was amended, at the suggestion of H. C. Pollock, of Philadelphia, to include the clergymen of Portland, and all other clergymen in attendance not delegates.

The members of the Lecture Bureau, of the Executive Committee, and Corresponding Members of that Committee, were constituted delegates to the Convention, on motion of R. R. McBurney, of New-York City.

The chairman of the Committee on Permanent Organization, (W. G. Crowell, of Philadelphia), reported the following list of

OFFICERS OF THE CONVENTION.

FOR PRESIDENT.

WM. E. DODGE, JR., New-York City.

FOR VICE-PRESIDENTS.

JOHN S. MACLEAN, Halifax.

Gen. CLINTON B. FISKE, St. Louis, Mo. *

JOHN WANAMAKER, Philadelphia, Pa.

DANIEL WILSON, LL. D., Toronto.

H. D. HYDE, Boston, Mass.

C. N. TODD, Indianapolis, Ind.

H. L. CHAMBERLAIN, San Francisco, Cal.

ARTHUR LITTLE, Fond du Lac, Wis.

J. G. PARKHURST, Providence, R. I.

JULIUS E. GRAMMAR, D.D., Baltimore, Md.

SECRETARIES.

J. R. SYPHER, Philadelphia, Pa.

H. H. BURGESS, Portland, Me.*

J. R. DOUGALL, Montreal.

W. E. Dodge, Jr., of New York, arose to propose the substitution of the name of H. Thane Miller, of Cincinnati, O., for his own, in the Committee's report, but was relieved of all further

*Mr. Burgess being unable to serve, Mr. R. H. Hinckley, Jr., of Philadelphia, was subsequently substituted as one of the Secretaries.

expression in this direction by an unanimous election to the Presidency, which a sense of duty obliged him to accept. The remainder of the nominees for office, were subsequently elected, and the organization was complete, when Messrs. Pond, of Boston, and Weidensall, of Omaha, having been appointed a special committee for that purpose, conducted the newly chosen President to the chair.

President Dodge addressed the Convention briefly and earnestly.

Prayer by the retiring President followed.

The Business Committee made the following preliminary report:

That this Convention now adjourn this afternoon's session, until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock, in order that the delegates have opportunity to attend the Welcome Meeting at the City Hall, to-night.

That a prayer-meeting be held in the Chestnut Street M. E. Church to-morrow morning from 6 to 7 o'clock, to be led by D. L. Moody, of Chicago, Ill. and that a prayer-meeting be held in this house, from 8½ to 9 o'clock, same morning, to be led by B. F. Rouse, Cleveland, O.

That the report of the Executive Committee be made the first regular business of to-morrow morning's session, to be followed by discussion of the sixth topic, suggested by the Executive Committee, viz.: "Personal consecration to Christ, essential to real success in Associational work in its grandest phase, the conversion of young men." The discussion to be opened by Alfred Wickes, of Brooklyn, N. Y.; time ten minutes, and subsequent speakers to be limited to five minutes each.

That Wm. E. Dodge, Jr., President of this Convention, Ex-Gov. Pollock, of Pennsylvania, and H. Thane Miller, of Ohio, be delegated to respond to the addresses of welcome this evening.

In accordance with the suggestion of this report, the Convention here adjourned till Thursday morning, at nine o'clock.

THE WELCOME MEETING

on the evening of July 14, at the City Hall, was a memorable occasion. An audience of at least three thousand was present, filling the commodious audience room to its utmost capacity. Over the platform the American and English flags were intertwined as a back-ground to the word "Welcome." An original hymn "Welcome, Day of Solemn Meeting," was sung, after which prayer was offered by the Rev. S. R. Bailey of the Chestnut Street M. E. Church. Hon. Woodbury Davis, Postmaster of Portland, had been selected as Chairman of the evening, and in a

few remarks of kindly greeting, introduced the Hon. Wm. L. Putnam, Mayor of Portland, who remarked, that he very cheerfully appeared to extend the hospitalities of the city to all the delegates. It was a more than ordinary pleasure, from the fact that the many strange faces before him, from other cities and lands, wore the expression of one common purpose—the good of humanity. He welcomed them as Christian young men; and, although not one of their number, as registered on their rolls of membership, he desired to assure them of his full sympathy with their every plan and endeavor calculated to advance the cause of humanity and pure religion. When men step out of their creeds into one harmony of thought and feeling, desirous of doing their fellow-man a beneficial service, he believed that all true-hearted men could cordially take them by the hand and bid them God-speed in their mission. Portland opens her doors widely and heartily. We ask you to feel at home; visit our places of industry and interest, and we shall feel amply commensurated for all in that influence for the advancement of the cause of God which such a Convention always exerts upon a community.

Rev. J. J. Carruthers, D.D., in behalf of the churches of Portland, next addressed the Convention, in a similar cordial greeting. He said :

We meet together, not as monarchists, unless, to avow allegiance to the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, and rejoice in the liberty enjoyed by all God's children. We welcome you as representatives of churches, differing somewhat, it may be, but all built on the same corner stone—Christ Jesus. We exult in that progress and charity which recognizes unity under God; a union unaffected by mere matters of creed. We have witnessed the amalgamation almost of branches of the Presbyterian Church, who desire to unite in one common labor of saving souls. We rejoice in truth, having no sympathy with what Bunyan calls prejudice. We call it bigotry. As Young Men's Christian Associations, you cannot supplant, but may supplement, the ministry; and the fact that there are millions in this country, to whom the ministrations of the Gospel never extend, ought to incite you all to brave action for God. To-day you are calling these masses to come and hear of Jesus. May God's blessing rest upon every endeavor of our Young Men's Christian Association. I know not what would become of our churches without this great power in our midst. Show me a church not giving you a generous support and I will show you a church that must die.

The audience then united in singing "Soldiers in the ranks of Jesus."

Ex-Governor Pollock of Pennsylvania was first to respond on behalf of the delegates to the kind welcome which had been awarded them. He said :

The duty devolves upon me to respond in behalf of the young Christian men, delegates to the Convention here, and I do it cheerfully, though if I were to speak the plain truth, I feel that others here, of age and experience, up to the rushing present, might better perform my part. I thank the Mayor for his address. He has made us feel at home and welcomed us as a power for good, representing no sect, but the rock on which all truth is built—the Bible. Without that we would have no country, no flag, and manhood would be a farce. The welcome in behalf of the churches I believe to be full and heartfelt, and well may the churches give us the fraternal hand. Our work is one, though in different channels, and our single purpose the glory of God.

Prof. Daniel Wilson of Toronto was next called upon, and very happily responded. He had felt some embarrassment on rising (he remarked), but found it all relieved by noticing the blended Stars and Stripes with the British Jack. In behalf of the British Dominions he could only express his thanks for so cordial a reception, and his soul was feasted in seeing the young men of the Continent assembled, one in Christ, to lay out work for their Master.

Major-Gen. O. O. Howard, of Washington, D. C., the next speaker, being a member of the Young Men's Christian Association and a native of Maine, scarcely knew whether to give or receive a welcome. He was happy to do both, and referred to the special mission of Y. M. C. organizations among the students of our colleges, closing with a touching reference to the death of the Rev. Dr. Duffield, during the last Convention at Detroit.

Major-Gen. Clinton B. Fiske, of St. Louis, Mo., hardly thought that the Convention cared much for any words from him. "But," said he, "I bring you greeting from beyond the Mississippi, where we are doing a great work. Since the war our Association has regained its original strength. I am glad to meet these delegates, my old chief (Gen. Howard), these brethren and these 'Down Easters.' Long may the flags united above us wave beneath the banner of the cross of Christ! We love our flag, we love Canada much, and each can say, 'God bless our native land.' But above all lies the blood-stained banner of Jesus, under which we are

serving ; and, for one, I delight to be under the leadership of Emanuel. Let us follow Him ! Be aggressive soldiers of Christ !"

H. Thane Miller, of Cincinnati, made the closing address, which was characterized by mingled humor, pathos, and religious exhortation. He concluded with an earnest appeal for public sympathy toward the Young Men's Christian Associations, after which the benediction was pronounced by the Rev. O. P. Moulton of Portland, and the meeting adjourned at a late hour.

SECOND DAY—THURSDAY, JULY 15, 1869.

The Convention re-assembled at 9 o'clock, and after singing "The Morning Light is Breaking," the Rev. D. W. Waldron, of East Weymouth, Mass., read a selection of Scripture, followed in prayer by Rev. J. G. Butler, of Washington, D. C. "My Faith Looks up to Thee," was then sung, and the President declared the Convention ready for business.

Robert H. Hinckley, Jr., of Philadelphia, Pa., was elected Secretary, in place of H. H. Burgess, of Portland, Me.

Several resolutions were presented and referred by rule, without reading or discussion, to the Committee on Business.

The President announced, as a Committee on Resolutions, Moses W. Pond, Boston, Mass. ; E. L. Taylor, Columbus, O., Alfred Wickes, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Also, as a permanent Committee on Business, J. I. Platt, Poughkeepsie, N. Y. ; D. L. Moody, Chicago, Ill. ; J. M. Buckley, Stamford, Conn. ; L. P. Rowland, Jr., Boston, Mass. ; Thomas K. Cree, Pittsburgh, Pa. ; George E. Davis, Burlington, Vt. ; F. D. Taylor, Detroit, Mich.

A communication from the Baltimore Central Y. M. C. Association, was presented and referred to the Committee on Credentials.

The order of the day was then taken up, and the Report of the Executive Committee read by its Chairman, Cephas Brainerd, of New-York City. (See Appendix.)

On reference to his work, on the line of the Pacific Railroad, Robert Weidensall, of Omaha, Agent of the Executive Committee, gave a brief statement of his labors, by request of the Chair-

man of the Executive Committee. (See Report in full in Appendix.)

At the conclusion of Bro. Weidensall's remarks, the hymn "Blow ye the Trumpet, Blow," was sung, after which the reading of the report of the Executive Committee was resumed and finished.

On motion of H. Thane Miller, this report was accepted, and the thanks of the Convention extended to the members of the Executive Committee "for the able and satisfactory manner in which they have discharged their arduous duties during the past year."

The Convention arose and sang "Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow," and prayer was offered by Major-General O. O. Howard, of Washington, D. C.

On motion of Edward S. Bartlett, of Bristol, R. I., the report of the Executive Committee was referred to a special committee. The following gentlemen were appointed such committee:

H. Thane Miller, Cincinnati, O.; H. H. Judson, Mishawaka, Ind.; M. S. Crosby, Grand Rapids, Mich.; Edgar A. Hutchins, East Brooklyn, N. Y.; Rev. R. H. Williams, Frederick, Md.; David Bentley, Montreal, Canada; J. D. Blake, Rochester, Minn.

The following Committee on Devotional Services, was also announced: Benjamin F. Rouse, Cleveland, O.; John H. Worcester, Burlington, Vt.; A. J. Chase, Portland, Me.; G. L. Joy, St. Louis, Mo.; Rev. G. M. Boynton, Guilford, Conn.; Rev. W. M. Martin, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Rev. J. B. Brandt, Indianapolis, Ind.

The Committee on Associations was announced as follows: J. H. Cheever, Cincinnati, O.; Rev. E. Mix, Orange, N. J.; Robert Weidensall, Omaha, Neb.; Thomas H. Rabe, Pittsburgh, Pa.; D. Bentley, Montreal, Canada; James Crawford, Baltimore, Md.; Wm. H. Irwin, Wheeling, West Virginia.

M. H. Hodder, of London, England, and representative of the Young Men's Christian Associations of that city and of Great Britain, was invited to a seat on the platform during all sessions of the Convention.

The Convention then took up the discussion of the topic—"Personal Consecration to Christ essential to real success in Associational work in its grandest phase—the conversion of young men."

Mr. Wickes, in opening the discussion of the topic (Personal Consecration to Christ, &c.), thought that it ought to be written in letters of gold over the seats in our places of convocation. The topic could not elicit debate, as all discussion would be to give it emphasis, and nothing could be more urged upon us. Consecration to Christ should be impressed upon the minds of all.

Charles D. Tucker, of Worcester, Mass., thought we could not be consecrated to Christ so long as we are allied to any evil habit. He could not believe in approaching a stranger on the subject of religion, while holding a quid of tobacco in his mouth.

Dr. G. W. Benjamin, of New Haven, Conn., regarded consecration to Christ as a state of utmost activity in His vineyard, and narrated several incidents illustrative of this point.

S. W. Stebbins, of New-York, gave his idea of consecration, citing the enlistment of volunteers during the late war. We must give up all to Christ in order to work effectually, and we can then meet and organize chances to labor anywhere.

L. P. Rowland, of Boston, next spoke. The greatest hindrance to perfect consecration to Christ is the inconsistency of other professed Christians. But we must explicitly obey the command: "Whatsoever He saith unto you, that do." Full work is absolute consecration, for while the heart is working to its utmost tension for Christ, it must necessarily have a great share of His power and love.

The time allotted to the discussion having expired, H. Thane Miller, of Cincinnati, presented to the Convention a curiously wrought card, (the work of a British soldier, wounded at Lucknow,) from Judge Young, of Halifax, bearing the device, "*Distinct as the billows, but one as the sea.*"

The Business Committee reported the order of business for the afternoon session, and, after singing the hymn, "Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone," and the benediction by Rev. Howard Crosby, D.D., of New-York, the Convention adjourned.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

Rev. Howard Crosby, D. D., conducted the devotional services of the prayer-meeting previous to the afternoon session.

The Convention was called to order at 3 P. M. by the President. A portion of the Scriptures, Colossians iii., was read by Rev. George A. Hall, of Washington, D. C., and prayer offered by Rev. S. B. Barnitz, of Wheeling, West Va. Resolutions, on various subjects, were offered by the following named delegates: Messrs. Glass, of Baltimore, Md.; Howard, of Washington; Stetson, of Roxbury, Mass.; Chamberlain, of San Francisco, Cal.; Stebbins, of New-York; Goding, of Worcester, Mass.; Tyrrell, of East Windsor, Conn.; Gleason, of Holden, Mass.; Sleigh, of Washington, D. C.; Norton, of Williamsburg, and Blake, of Rochester, Minn.

The resolutions were referred, in accordance with the rule.

General Fiske, of St. Louis, read a dispatch from George H. Stuart, at Germantown, Pa., regretting his inability to be present, and invoking God's blessing upon the Convention.

A dispatch from Lowell, Mass., was announced, counselling Christian fidelity and brotherly love.

A letter was read from the Colored Y. M. C. Association of Washington, D. C., which was referred to the Business Committee for a response, as was also the dispatch from Mr. Stuart.

The greetings of a German Y. M. C. Association of New Haven, Conn., were received, and a letter from the Y. M. C. Association of West Baltimore, Md.

Mr. Chase, of Portland, President of the Y. M. C. Association in that city, and in their behalf, gave an invitation to the Convention to make an excursion down the harbor, on Friday forenoon, leaving the wharf at the foot of State street, at 11 o'clock, and returning at 1. The invitation was received with applause.

On motion of Rev. Dr. Crosby, of New-York, the invitation was accepted, with thanks.

Mr. Parkhurst, of Providence, R. I., announced the death of Rev. Dr. Swayne, of Providence, which took place as this Convention was assembling on Wednesday afternoon.

The sympathy of the Convention was with much feeling expressed for the bereaved church, the Association in which he took so deep an interest, and the motherless and now fatherless children.

Remarks were made by H. Thane Miller, of Ohio, and at the request of the President, Mr. Miller led the Convention in prayer for the Church and family of our deceased brother.

The Convention expressed, also, their sympathy with Mr. P. B. Simons, of Philadelphia, who, on his way to this Convention, was called home by the death of his child.

Mr. Pond, of Boston, in behalf of the Committee on Resolutions reported the following resolutions, which were adopted :

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be instructed to have a history of the Y. M. C. Association, and the religious societies of young men, which preceded the organization of the London Association, prepared and published under their supervision.

After a preamble,—

Resolved, That we consider it the bounden duty of the members of all Young Men's Christian Associations calling themselves Christians, to hold their duties and obligations, to their respective churches, and to the services of the same, as having a prior claim upon their sympathy and efforts.

Resolved, That in the prosecution of the work for the Saviour among young men which they have assumed, they should heartily and zealously co-operate with the divinely appointed ministry, and with all Evangelical bodies of Christians.

Resolved. That this Convention recommend that the evening of the day of organization of future conferences be devoted to a social gathering of the delegations and that the Association entertaining the Convention be requested to arrange for the same.

The President remarked that it was all-important that we should enter upon all our discussions in a prayerful spirit, and at his request Mr. Doane sang the solo, "We are Waiting by the River," accompanied by the cabinet organ, and the Convention joined in the chorus.

The first topic proposed by the Committee, viz : "The need of buildings constructed for and owned by the Associations, and the plans for the accumulation of building funds," was introduced by J. R. Sypher, of Philadelphia, Pa., who opened the debate by assuming the necessity of buildings for our special use, and pro-

ceeded to suggest the ways and means. Many of the members of our Associations are poor young men, preparing for the ministry. These might be vested with the power of collecting funds, as a matter of charity, but not as a matter of good judgment. A man good in prayer-meeting is not always a successful financier, and this position he illustrated with citations of examples.

Robert R. Remington, of Fall River, Mass., could not agree with Bro. Sypher's conclusion. He believed a good Christian to be safe as a financier. (Here Bro. Sypher arose, and explained that he would have our financiers—good Christian men, of course, but men of business tact and experience.) Mr. Remington resumed by saying, that any young man applying for funds for Y. M. C. A. purposes, needs only to be indorsed by a consistent godly life to prevail.

A. S. Pratt, of Washington, D. C., exhibited a photograph of the Y. M. C. A. building in that city, and remarked that the funds to build it were raised by hard work. They had some "big licks" of \$5,000 and \$10,000. Hard-working young men paid one dollar apiece, and much was due to the labors of Gen. Howard.

D. L. Moody, of Chicago, told how the building for the Y. M. C. A. in that city was built. It was found necessary to have a board of trustees, and they were raised from substantial business men. In this way \$75,000 were raised. The trustees felt that they should have an interest in the property, and thus the people had confidence in them. The building was erected, burnt, and re-built. A building could be built in six months in any of the more thrifty towns of the country; and this should be done, rather than raise endowment funds. The surest way to kill a church is to endow it with \$100,000. He was a young man, and expected to live to see a building for a Y. M. C. A. in every town of considerable size in the country.

C. E. Bolton, of Cleveland, Ohio, spoke of the erection of a building there. The brethren met for special prayer. They drew up a paper, pledging a certain amount for the work, payable before the expiration of four years. They appointed a building committee, and one hundred and fourteen pledged \$100

apiece. The ladies, meantime, had been at work, and, among the rich men of the town, raised \$15,000.

H. L. Chamberlain, of San Francisco, believed faith to be of more importance than funds, and stated that this was the basis of their success at his home, in raising \$115,000 for a building there. Nine years ago our ladies held a festival to start the building funds; and now we have the building.

Wm. E. Dodge, Jr., the President of the Convention, by request, made a few statements relative to the building of the Y. M. C. A. in New-York City. He said:

We first intended to put up a plain building, but Providence has directed us to a different plan. We mean to erect a roomy and attractive home for all young men. We have raised over \$300,000 by donations, and the building will probably cost, complete, half a million dollars. Of this, \$50,000 more are provided for, and we calculate to pay off the balance in three years. Our building is of five stories, with a frontage of 175 feet, and average depth of 90 feet. It will contain a general and biblical library room, reading room and hall, gymnasium, a music room—in fact, every convenience to exert a warm Christian influence. Some of our friends think we are extravagant, but they are mostly the ones who do not give anything. The upper story of the building we purpose to let for studios; and the rent of these, combined with that of the stores underneath, and lecture hall, when not in use, will cover our running expenses. It is located on the corner of Twenty-third street and Fourth avenue.

Two questions relative to the topic were here asked by Henry D. Hyde, of Boston: and Messrs. Moody, of Chicago, Ill., and A. S. Pratt, of Washington, D. C., were invited to reply.

1st. Does the stock principle, in building, commend itself?

Answer—by Mr. Moody—"It was predicted by all in Chicago that the stock principle would fail; but experience has shown otherwise. When our building burned we had \$100,000 insurance on it, and found the task of erecting a new one much easier than anticipated."

2d. Does the system of having coffee and refreshment rooms, in connection with our buildings, pay?

Answer—by Mr. Pratt—"At Washington, we have no coffee rooms yet. Think it would be a capital idea to have a refreshment room, provided it was well managed, and at moderate rates."

The discussion here closed with prayer by Sheriff Thomas of Hamilton, Ontario, and the Convention sang "Work, for the Night is Coming." The special topic, "Is it expedient to open the rooms of our Associations on the Sabbath?" was then taken up, the discussion being opened by Moses W. Pond, of

Boston, Mass., who said : " If this question were asked me of our rooms in Boston, I should most emphatically say ' No ! ' There are too many efforts being made to level our Christian Sabbath to the common week day. The members of our Association are engaged on the Sabbath in their own churches and Sunday-schools ; and the class who would frequent our rooms, if open, would be mere loungers and non-church-goers, who might drop in to pass an hour in secular reading or conversation. I know that in Cincinnati and Chicago, the rooms are kept open, and if no evil has come from the experiment, I say Well ! but as far as the general influence of such action would be felt, I am opposed to opening our rooms on the Lord's Day."

Rev. J. W. Buckley, of Stamford, Conn., believed that we labor under a great misapprehension of the duty of a Christian in the premises. Are we to preserve our respect for the Sabbath by doing what the Bible nowhere commands ? Is there any essential evil in opening our rooms on the Lord's Day ? If not, why condemn it ? To be sure, church-goers will still frequent the house of God ; and non-church-goers are just the ones to frequent our rooms. I mistake our mission, brethren, if those are not just the class we are seeking to save. Better have the unconverted crowds of young men in our rooms, reading and conversing on the Sabbath, and in a Christian atmosphere at least, than in our cars, steamboats and parks, in the service of sin. Opponents of this would drive us to a Jewish and bigoted observance of the Sabbath.

O. C. Wight, of Washington, C. E. Bolton, of Cleveland, O. and Henry Storer, of New Haven, Conn., spoke briefly of the Washington and Cleveland Associations holding prayer-meetings, and the latter a Bible Class on every Sabbath.

W. R. Callender, of Boston Highlands, regarded the topic as one vital to every Association. He was in favor of opening rooms for prayer ; but even then, the line could hardly be drawn with safety. He could not think of opening if secular work or amusement should creep in and provide means to serve the devil. Would not our young men, now professors, frequent the rooms for the sake of reading the profane literature of the day ?

General O. O. Howard, of Washington, D. C., had but one word to say. In Washington there are 20,000 young men, clerks in Departments and the like, who have no religious home. We open our rooms on the Sabbath, and ask them in, to prayer and praise. They understand our main object to be their salvation, and not secular work or enjoyment. The influence is salutary, and the plan commendable.

Rev. Geo. F. Stanton, of Fitchburgh, Mass., thought it best to close the rooms on the Sabbath, as young men would resort to them merely to idle the time away. Ask young men to your own houses, and not to a public room, if you wish to pray with them and hold religious conversation. This action carries a deeper meaning to the young stranger's heart. It means hospitality and warm-heartedness, and opens an easy avenue by which to lead his soul to Jesus.

The debate was here suspended.

The Business Committee made a report in reference to the exercises of the evening.

The Committee on Credentials, W. J. Carlton, Chairman, reported that six hundred and ten delegates had been regularly accredited, and that a large number of others interested in the work of the Associations were also present, and introduced a resolution which was adopted, by which all members of the Young Men's Christian Associations, including the members of the Portland Association, in excess of the number of delegates to which they are entitled, and all representatives of kindred societies, be enrolled as corresponding and honorary members.

LIST OF DELEGATES.

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JOHN I. PLATT, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.	L. E. SLEIGH, Washington, D. C.
WM. J. CARLTON, Elizabeth, N. J.	JAMES FARQUHAR, Halifax, N. S.
THOMAS MARSHALL, Philadelphia, Pa.	

MEMBERS OF THE LECTURE BUREAU.

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P. L. SPENCER,
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Guilford.
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E. C. STONE.

Plantville.
Rev. WM. R. EASTMAN,
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Milford.
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H. C. DENTON,
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HENRY KELLEY,
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FRANKLIN LYON,
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WAYLAND R. BENEDICT.

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J. J. JANEWAY,
W. H. CHASE,
D. E. ENGLISH, M.D.

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C. L. VAN ALLEN,
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DUNCAN CAMPBELL.

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ROBERT WEIDENSALL.

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Rev. WM. A. RAND, South Seabrook, N. H.	C. U. BELL, Exeter, N. H.
JOHN W. GOULD, Worcester, Mass.	Rev. N. HOPPER, "
Rev. JOHN COLBY, Southboro', Mass.	T. B. THAYER, Garland, Me.
	Rev. E. B. FAIRFIELD, LL.D., Hillsdale, Mich.

NEWSPAPERS REPRESENTED.

PORTLAND—"Press," "Argus," "Christian Mirror," "Zion's Advocate," and "Advertiser."

BOSTON, MASS.—"Advertiser," "Watchman and Reflector," "Journal," "Congregationalist," and "Traveller."

NEW-YORK CITY—"Evening Post," "Tribune," "Independent," "Methodist," "Christian at Work."

PROVIDENCE, R. I.—"Journal."

LEWISTON, ME.—"Journal."

CHICAGO, ILL.—"Advance."

BANGOR, ME.—"Whig and Courier."

OSWEGO, N. Y.—"Daily Commercial."

OXFORD, ME.—"Democrat."

Prof. R. H. Tripp, of Kalamazoo, Mich., was appointed a member of the Committee on Associations, in place of David Bentley, of Montreal, Canada, who was upon another committee.

Messrs. J. G. Joslin, of Keene, N. H., and J. G. Vose of Rhode Island, were appointed to take the place of two absent members of the Committee on open-air meetings.

The Convention united in singing,—

“O how I love Jesus.”

Benediction by Rev. Dr. Stockbridge, of Providence, R. I., formerly of Portland.

Adjourned to 8 o'clock

THURSDAY EVENING.

Open-air meetings were held in Market Square, near the old City Hall, and on Congress street, near new City Hall, at seven o'clock.

The Convention re-assembled at 8 o'clock.

President DODGE in the Chair.

The audience sang, “We are Volunteers;” a portion of Scripture—119th Psalm—was read by Rev. J. Henry Smyth, of Philadelphia, Pa., and prayer offered by Julius E. Grammer, D. D., of Baltimore, Md.

Resolutions were offered by Messrs. Fiske, of Detroit, Mich., Thomas, of Hamilton, Ont., Lovejoy, of Lowell, Mass., Grammer, of Baltimore, Md., Bailey, of Washington, D. C., Palmer, of Shoreham, Vt., Brainerd, of New-York City, Clifford, of Holyoke, Mass., and Hall, of Elmira, N. Y., all of which were referred to the appropriate committee.

A resolution, suggesting thanks to H. Thane Miller, of Cincinnati, Ohio, for the able manner in which he had presided over the last three Y. M. C. A. International Conventions, was offered by David W. Glass, of Baltimore, Md., and it was referred to the President to prepare a resolution to be submitted hereafter to the Convention.

The Committee on Resolutions partially reported as follows, that no new resolution need be introduced on the subject of Temperance, and that we re-affirm the declaration made at the Convention last year in reference to the evils of intemperance, and the work of instilling the principles of total abstinence into the minds of our young men.

In reference to the subject of amusements, they reported that

the resolutions passed at Montreal on this subject were sufficiently distinct and emphatic, and that it was not necessary to take any further action on the subject.

The following resolution reported by the committee was adopted by the Convention :

Whereas, The recent decoration of soldiers' graves occurring upon the Sabbath, many of our Young Men's Christian Associations were prevented from attending said services ; and

Whereas, The observance of this custom upon the Sabbath day is liable to interfere with Christian work, and to lead to the desecration of the day by many ; therefore

Resolved, That this Convention respectfully request those having this matter in charge to select some other than the Sabbath day for the observance of this custom of annual decorations.

The Convention then sang

" We are called to labor
In our blessed Master's name."

The President then announced that the first and most pleasant duty of the evening was to extend our most cordial greeting and welcome to M. H. Hodder, delegate to this Convention from London, England, whom he now had the pleasure of introducing.

Matthew H. Hodder, of London, replied :

" In the name of the Young Men's Christian Associations of Great Britain, I greet you all, most sincerely. I feel that I have become a better man since my arrival in America, and have learned many lessons, which I shall make use of on my return home. On arrival here I met our dear Brother McBurney on the wharf in New York, and from that time to now, have been blessed with the friendships and hospitality of your Young Men's Christian Associations. Twenty-five years ago a few men met in an office in London, not far from my own, to pray for their employer. He was converted, as the result, and being rich, suggested that an association of young Christian men be formed, to take an especial interest in their own class. From that sprung the London Y. M. C. Association. I joined it, and mean to spend my life in it. Our Associations in Great Britain are a power, but not so effective as in America, perhaps. May God cement us together ; these two nations, speaking one tongue, and destined to bring the world to Him. We have in London less machinery than you have here, and work in pretty nearly the same manner. Spiritual power is more prominent with us ; but I notice, when it does crop out here, it is with a zeal, unusual to us. We hold one weekly prayer-meeting on Thursday evening, and all kneel down during devotion. We try to get the best men of our churches to lead, and believe in short prayers and exhortations. We differ from you somewhat in the admission of members. We require the written endorsement of some pastor acquainted with the party proposed, before his admission to active membership. We must be jealous of the good character of our Y. M.

C. Associations. Don't call a man a member until he shows his interest with us, and devotion to the cause of Christ. We have a social cup of tea every evening at six o'clock, (better than one can generally find in New-York,) and hold a Bible Class on the Sabbath, keeping open only long enough for that purpose. Your prayer-meetings are glorious. Why, we don't know what it is to have such as you hold here every day. Our meetings are better than they used to be since Bro. Moody came over and told us how to do things, as we never had learned before. Bro. Dodge and Bro. Stewart gave us a call, and we shall be glad to see all of you. We will breakfast you all. Do you know how to spell my name? It is H-O-D-D-E-R, of ——— & Hodder, Paternoster Row, and my partner is a friend of the Young Men's Christian Association. If you will call on us we will take you in, bodily, and care for you. God bless you all."

By request of the President, a rising vote of thanks was tendered Mr. Hodder for his kind address, and H. Thane Miller sang "Tell me the old, old story," the Convention and audience uniting in the chorus.

Rev. Edward Hawes, D. D., of Philadelphia, Pa., responded to the delegate from London in behalf of the Convention, and said:

"Any words of mine, Mr. Chairman, must seem tame to this dear brother from abroad, for these one thousand young men before me have already responded more potently, in their hearts. Yet it is pleasant to speak a word at a time like this. We are not unmindful of the promise, "And I, if I be lifted up, will draw all men unto me." We can always renew our courage, by a review of our past courses in Christian life. When we think of the humble origin of our Associations, and what they have accomplished, can we not feel like soldiers on a mountain summit, looking down upon the field of victory, through the clouds of parting smoke? And can we not hear that final assurance of our conquest, "Be of good cheer, I have overcome the world," and the promise is to him "that overcometh." We rejoice in the words to which we have listened. May such a brother as our Bro. Hodder often be sent to cement us together in bonds of love, that the direful calamity, war, predicted at times may always be averted. We would have you, Bro. Hodder, bear to our fellow laborers in England, our earnest Christian greeting. We love one common Saviour, one Lord and Master, and build together on the Rock cleft for us. In that cleft we all hide. We find the reason and philosophy of our consecration to Christ in the fact of Christ's consecration to us. He gave up all for us all. We can say no more, for that includes everything. My dear Bro. Hodder, I take you by the hand, in behalf of this entire Convention, and wish you abundant blessings and God speed."

The audience arose and sang, "Blest be the tie that binds;" after which the Convention proceeded to the discussion of the Third Topic, viz.:

"What forms of Christian effort, outside the special work for which the Associations have been organized, are most successful, and how have these been prosecuted?"

D. L. Moody, of Chicago, Ill., opening the debate, remarked, that,

It is a difficult matter to say what is the proper work of Y. M. C. Associations. I think it is to get all at work for Jesus in some field or other. We aim to get every family in Chicago under the influence of the Gospel. The city is divided into districts, each Church taking a district. Every thirty days they go through three districts, and thus, once a month, almost everybody hears the Gospel. Some say we are interfering with the special work of the Church, but it is no such thing. If I had a drop of blood in my veins, not loyal to the Church of God, I would let it out before I went to bed. Young men in Chicago carry about handbills, inviting the people to church. The consequence is, that scores find their way to Sabbath services for the first time. It doesn't do any good to come here and make resolutions. We don't read the Resolutions of the Apostles, but the Acts. We must *work*, and not talk.

Geo. W. Benjamin, M.D., of New Haven, Conn., related the result of co-operation with the pastor, on the part of his Association. At one meeting eight were converted.

Rev. E. A. Buck, of Fall River, Mass., believed that the rapid growth of his home Association had been accomplished by the young men and women who had gone to work personally for Christ. There are 1,500 children in our Fall River Y. M. C. A. Mission Schools.

Rev. J. W. Chickering, D. D., of Wakefield, Mass., spoke of the time—twenty years ago—when this State Street Church, of Portland, was contemplated and organized. How little he, then a pastor in Portland, thought it would even get a footing. It was done by coupled faith and work. Much can be done for Christ by mentioning him in our business letters.

Rev. George P. Wilson, of Lawrence, Mass., spoke of neighborhood meetings held by his Association in all parts of the village, by which the gospel is carried to all classes of people. In Lawrence there have been organized three out-door meetings; from one to three thousand attend every Sabbath, and many linger after meeting, to tell us, with tears in their eyes, of their sins and need of Christ. We believe in having thunder all around us.

F. M. Stowell, of Holden, Mass., said:

I have witnessed a great work of grace during the last three months. It was brought about by personal dedication to the cross of Christ. We districted the town, visited every family in it, God blessed our efforts, and we added one hundred and eighty members to our Association.

D. W. Glass, of Baltimore, spoke of organizing there a home for the boot blacks. The ragged little urchins were fed, clothed, lodged, and some member of the Association spends an evening each week with them. We bought a building, costing several thousand dollars, and met with a glorious success.

Rev. P. B. Fish of Peacham, Vt., said:

I come from the least of the tribes of this Israel, from the little town of Vermont, where there are said to be but two seasons, winter and late fall. But we have a live little Association, and fifty souls have been converted as the results of our past year's work.

The discussion here closed, when the Committee on Business reported the order of exercises for the next day, after which the Convention adjourned with singing "Never be afraid to speak for Jesus," and benediction by Rev. E. Hawes, of Philadelphia. On the same evening a meeting was held at Pine street Methodist Episcopal Church, and addressed by Maj.-Gen. Fiske, Revs. J. C. Cheshire, Howard Crosby, D.D., and Messrs. Maclean, Moody, Miller, Cyr and Gen. O. O. Howard.

THIRD DAY.

FRIDAY MORNING.—JULY 16, 1869.

The morning session opened at half-past eight o'clock, the President in the chair. "Just as I am" was sung, a portion of Scripture was read by Rev. A. F. Beard, of Syracuse, N. Y., and the Convention joined in prayer with Rev. Roger B. Howard, of Farmington, Me.

The Committee on Associations reported the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, That having evidence of great success attending the open-air meetings inaugurated by our Associations, the Convention recommend to all Associations the formation of committees to conduct such exercises whenever it is deemed practicable.

Resolved, That we are gratified to know that the Executive Committee have during the past year encouraged in every way possible the formation of Associations in the South, which action we hereby heartily endorse, and assure such Associations of our abiding interest in their success.

The Committee recommended that inasmuch as at our last Convention, the Executive Committee were authorized to prepare a certificate for the use of all

Associations wishing them, this subject be referred again to the Executive Committee for their action.

Notice was given by A. J. Chase, President of the Portland Association, that the excursion down the harbor, tendered the Convention by Portland friends, had been abandoned on account of the stormy weather. Also, notice was given of a proposal of a city photographer to take a picture of the Convention in group.

John S. Maclean, Vice-President, of Halifax, N. S., took the chair, and the audience sang "My days are gliding swiftly by," after which the Convention proceeded to the third topic: "Monthly, social and business meetings of the Associations: the objects of each and how each may be best conducted."

Mr. W. J. Breed, of Cincinnati, O., opened the debate, expressing the idea that our religious meetings should be always made cheerful. No young man ought to cross the threshold of our rooms with an evident feeling that he was entering a gloomy place. Let the meetings be lively; let the conversation together be cheerful, and carry the impression that a Christian, of all men, has the best right to laugh and enjoy life in the highest sense.

Wayland R. Benedict, of Rochester, N. Y., thought there should be no routine for a business meeting. Take things up in the order presented, but no set way. We want life and inspiration, not a stupid formality.

C. B. Ramsdell, of Washington, D. C., gave his idea of the order of a monthly meeting. First, see that all members are acquainted; have good music and but brief addresses. Officers should have a knowledge of parliamentary law; time and efficiency are lost by ignorance of it.

C. E. Bolton, of Cleveland, O., stated that in his city the Executive Committee of the Association meet on Saturday evenings. We get up a little lunch, at no expense to any but ourselves, have tea and a social chat. Each member reports his doings, and we have an informal good time, productive of good work.

L. Sheaf, of Cincinnati, O., said:

Our Executive Committee meets once a week, to devise means to carry on our work. We have a lunch, and pay for it out of our own pockets. The lunch is open, free to all; and we have a committee whose business it is to find out

every stranger. Our social meetings are practically so. On New Year's evening we have refreshments from 9 to 10 o'clock P.M., and go out into the hedges to invite the outcasts to our feast. There is more religion in a hearty shake of the hand and a good meal than we think for.

R. R. McBurney, of New-York City, remarked that all matters of a purely business nature come before a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Association, which is held twice a month, at the private residence of some member. It is a great mistake to bring business into a devotional meeting. Our Executive Committee consists of five. The Committees of the Association are committees on employment, on hospitality, boarding-houses, churches, &c., and spend about one hour and a quarter together, closing with a light tea.

This closed the remarks on the topic, and the Convention arose and sang "Dare to do right."

The report of the Special Committee, to whom was referred the report of the Executive Committee, was presented by H. Thane Miller, Chairman; the report being read for him by the Secretary.

The Report is as follows:

The Committee to whom was referred the Executive Committee's Report and the recommendations and suggestions contained therein, report the following resolutions as embracing their conclusions upon the matters to which they relate:

As to the location of the Executive Committee, your Committee recommends the adoption of the following resolutions:

First, That the Executive Committee be located, for the three years next ensuing, at the City of New-York, and to consist of seven members, and that the Committee have power to fill all vacancies; and

Second, That the Committee be composed of the following persons, viz.: Cephas Brainerd, Timothy G. Sellew, Jr., Robert R. McBurney, James Stokes, Jr., William F. Lee, Morris K. Jesup.

Third, That the Executive Committee announce in their first circular to the Corresponding Members, the time and place of their stated meetings, and urge their attendance as members of the same.

In regard to State Conventions,

Resolved, First, That this Convention adopts the enunciations contained in the report of the Executive Committee in reference to State and District Conventions, and directs the Executive Committee and Corresponding Members, in all cases where the same is possible, to call such Conventions after conference with

local committees and prominent Christian men. Second, That at such Conventions the number of delegates from Associations should be unlimited, and churches located in towns where Associations are not established, should be invited to send delegates to sit as Corresponding Members.

Resolved, That the Convention discuss, in Committee of the Whole, the question of the importance of State Conventions, and the mode in which they may be made most useful and practical, and

The Committee recommend that the discussion be opened by Mr. J. H. Cheever, of Cincinnati, and Mr. J. S. Maclean, of Halifax.

Resolved, That this Convention re-affirms the resolutions adopted at the Detroit Convention, on the qualifications for active membership in the Associations, and also the resolution of instructions, both of its agents and representatives, respecting the same, and requests those whose views are not in accordance therewith to resign the positions they hold under the authority of this Convention.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee issue a circular to all the Associations on this continent, and to those in other lands with which they are in correspondence, requesting the observance of the second Lord's-day in November as a day of prayer for the blessing of Almighty God upon the work of these Associations throughout the world.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be instructed to urge, in the name of the Convention, upon the Hon. Richard C. McCormick the importance of his completing the History of the Young Men's Christian Association of America now in course of preparation by him, during the current year, and that they render to him such assistance as may be in their power.

While freely recognizing the value of the Hymn Books published by prominent laborers in Association work, yet from the frequent and earnest demands for a book containing a greater variety of Hymns adapted for use in Convention and other public meetings of the Associations; and

Whereas, Mr. Wm. H. Doane has proposed to prepare a Hymn and Tune Book of the character indicated, the entire profits from the sale of which are at his request to be employed by the Executive Committee for the prosecution of the work committed to them by this Convention; therefore,

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be instructed to publish the same, if upon its completion the compilation meets their approval, and that no debts thereby be incurred by this Convention.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be authorized to continue the publication of the Periodical as the organ of the Association, in monthly numbers of 32 octavo pages each, at the subscription price of \$1 per year, provided there is guaranteed to them a list of not less than 3,000 subscribers, and that the Associations be urged by this Convention to secure as many subscribers as possible.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be instructed to continue the employment of Mr. Robert Weidensall, as traveling agent, under the resolutions adopted at the Detroit Convention, which are hereby reaffirmed.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be authorized to employ a person to act as its Secretary, and perform such editorial and other duties as it may assign to him in the prosecution of the business with which they are charged.

Resolved, That the two preceding resolutions take effect when the sum of \$5,000 is guaranteed to the Executive Committee to meet the expenses of the same, and also the incidental expenses of the Committee.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee publish the proceedings of this Convention, including the report, provided the subscribers therefor be sufficient to cover the cost of publication.

The Committee will make a further report, nominating Corresponding Members, and on such other matters as may be in their hands.

J. H. Clifford, of Holyoke, Mass., arose to ask for information relative to the proceedings of the Detroit Convention, as reference had been made to that body by the Committee which had just reported.

Major-General O. O. Howard, Washington, D. C., expressed his sympathy with the brother just up. The Committee have submitted a resolution expressive of qualifications of membership, and that says that one condition shall be membership in "an Evangelical Church." What do the words "Evangelical Church" mean? Is it one whose members love the Lord Jesus Christ?

(Mr. Thane Miller here replied, "That's just it.")

The resolution of the Detroit Convention was read as follows:

Resolved, That, as these organizations bear the name of Christian, and profess to be engaged directly in the Saviour's service, so it is clearly their duty to maintain the control and management of all their affairs, in the hands of those who profess to love and publicly avow their faith in Jesus, the Redeemer, as Divine, and who testify their faith by becoming and remaining members of churches held to be Evangelical, and that such persons, and none others, should be allowed to vote or hold office.

Rev. E. A. Buck, of Fall River, Mass., remarked:

There are many Unitarians in our churches and Associations who love the Lord Jesus Christ as much as either of us. The report just made endorses the resolution of the Detroit Convention, which in letter excludes from our Associations many excellent men. All who recognize the Lord Jesus Christ as Redeemer, should be admitted.

Rev. S. B. Barnitz, of Wheeling, West Va., said:

Who shall be our active members? An important question and one essential to our being. Now we can be no less broad in our declaration than the Providence that leads us. For one, I deny that any man can *love* the Lord Jesus who denies that he is the Son of the living God. If a man tells me that he loves the Lord and yet denies Him the crown of Divinity, he robs Him of His glory, and I cannot associate with him in Christian fellowship. (Intense applause and enthusiasm.)

Rev. J. M. Buckley, of Stamford, Conn., continued the discussion, saying:

"I think that the question before us ought to be considered in the right light

There may be, and doubtless are, people, in the Unitarian and Universalist Church, and the outside world, too, who may be in sympathy with our Jesus. But no real, logical Unitarian, ever will express belief in the crucifixion of Christ, as his Redeemer from sin. In our own Association we admitted to a portion of our organization a young man, moral and Unitarian, who introduced very speedily into our rooms and meetings tracts denying the doctrine of the Trinity. Well-intentioned error is more to be feared than unmasked corruption. While there may be some good, moral Unitarians, it is unsafe to take them into our full fraternity.

Rev. Howard Crosby, D.D., of New-York City, moved that the words "Evangelical Churches" be defined to be "those Churches which believe in the atoning sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ, as our Divine Redeemer, received by faith, as the sole source of salvation from eternal death."

Rev. S. H. Lee, of Greenfield, suggested that the word "Deity" be inserted in Dr. Crosby's resolution, after the words, "Jesus Christ," so as to read: "Jesus Christ, the Deity."

Albert Ellis, of South Boston, stated that he was brought up a Unitarian, and proposed that the word "vicarious" be substituted for "atoning," before the word "sacrifice."

Wm. A. Lewis, of Jersey City, moved that the report of the Special Committee be recommitted to them. The motion was lost.

The Chairman of the Special Committee, Mr. H. T. Miller, urged recommitment, and again made a motion to that effect, which was lost.

Mr. Lewis again made a similar motion, and was ruled out of order. At this juncture prayer was offered by C. E. Bolton, of Cleveland, Ohio, and the Convention sang, "All hail the power of Jesus' Name."

Rev. D. C. Kellogg, Jr., of Providence, R. I., remarked:

This question is all important, and we should be very cautious in approaching it. It has divided and subdivided the Christian Church for 1,500 years and still agitates us. I move that the portion of the Report of the Special Committee relative to the qualifications of our members, be referred to a Special Committee.

Adopted.

R. R. McBurney, of New-York City, moved that said Special Committee consist of Revs. Howard Crosby, D.D., of New-York

City, S. H. Lee, of Greenfield, Mass., G. M. Grant, of Halifax, N. S., D. C. Kellogg, Jr., of Providence, R. I., and Major-Gen. O. O. Howard, of Washington, D. C.

This motion was carried, and the remainder of the report of the Committee on the Report of the Executive Committee was adopted without debate.

H. Thane Miller, of Cincinnati, Ohio, urged upon the Convention the need of raising at least the \$5,000 which their Executive Committee would need, during the coming year. He trusted the subscriptions for their work, and for the Periodical, would be generous and prompt. Prior to taking subscriptions, the Convention united with D. L. Moody, of Chicago, Ill., in prayer.

The roll of Associations was then called by States, and liberal responses made in subscriptions.

The Rev. Dr. Howard Crosby of New-York, Chairman of the Special Committee, to whom was referred the question of the membership in our Associations, reported in behalf of said Committee, as follows:

The report re-affirms the following resolution passed at Detroit at the Convention last year.

Resolved, That as these organizations bear the name of Christian, and profess to be engaged directly in the Saviour's service, so it is clearly their duty to maintain the control and management of all their affairs in the hands of those who profess to love and publicly avow their faith in Jesus, the Redeemer, as Divine, and who testify their faith by becoming and remaining members of churches held to be Evangelical.

The Committee add as a definition of Evangelical churches, the following:

And we hold those churches to be Evangelical which, maintaining the Holy Scriptures to be the only infallible rule of faith and practice, do believe in the Lord Jesus Christ (the only begotten of the Father, King of Kings, and Lord of Lords, in whom dwelleth the fullness of the Godhead bodily, and who was made sin for us, though knowing no sin, bearing our sins in His own body on the tree,) as the only name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved from everlasting punishment.

The Report was adopted with entire unanimity and great enthusiasm, the Convention rising and involuntarily breaking out in singing,

"All hail the power of Jesus' name."

The Committee on Resolutions asked and obtained leave to take the resolution on temperance from the Committee of the Whole, to make such amendment as they believed would meet the views of the Convention.

The Committee on Associations reported in regard to the subject of admitting ladies to membership in Young Men's Christian Associations, that they find that action was had upon this subject by the Montreal Convention, and such action re-affirmed by the Detroit Convention, saying, "That it is neither the province nor the duty of this Convention to decide upon the question of the propriety of admitting ladies to membership in Young Men's Christian Associations, but that each Society act for itself upon a consideration of all the circumstances by which it is surrounded."

The Committee therefore suggest that no further action is deemed necessary at this time.

Your Committee would recommend the following preamble and resolution :

Whereas, Christian ladies in various sections of our country, actuated by a desire to promote Evangelical religion among the young women, and impressed with the importance of combined effort to aid in accomplishing that object, have formed Young Women's Christian Associations among themselves, in accordance with the recommendation made by the Detroit Convention, be it

Resolved, That the Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces in Convention assembled, extend to the Young Women's Christian Associations, Christian greeting, and agree to co-operate with so desirable an auxiliary.

The Report was adopted.

Several other Committees made reports in part, or gave notices in relation to them.

The Convention united in singing the Doxology, and after the Benediction by Prof. Wilson of Toronto, adjourned.

FRIDAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Convention resumed its session at 3 o'clock, the President in the chair. After singing "Battling for the Lord," the 17th chapter of Luke was read by Rev. J. C. Labarel, of Randolph, Mass., and prayer offered by Rev. Elridge Mix, of Orange, N. J.

A communication was read from a lady of Portland, suggesting that services be held in the hotel dining-halls on the coming Sabbath, and was referred to the Committee on Devotional Services.

The Committee on Resolutions presented the following Report :

That the resolutions on the place of holding the next Convention, and on Excursions, had been referred to the Business Committee.

That the resolutions on Certificate of Life Membership, on Female Membership, on Southern Associations, and on out-door preaching, had been referred to the Committee on Associations.

That the resolutions upon the subjects of Temperance, Tobacco, and Amusements, were respectfully referred back to the Convention, as, in the judgment of the Committee, no further declaration is needed on these subjects, in view of the action taken thereupon by previous Conventions.

That the resolution respecting the reports of Corresponding Members of the Executive Committee had been referred to the Special Committee upon the Executive Committee's Report.

That, after careful consideration, the Committee are compelled to express the opinion that, for various (and generally obvious) reasons, it is inexpedient for the Convention to adopt the following resolutions, viz.:

On organizing a Student's Aid Bureau.

On Conducting Religious Meetings.

On Association Papers.

On Simultaneous Election of Officers.

On the Politics of the Roman Catholic Church.

On Invalid Young Men.

On Changing time of receiving resolutions.

On Telegraphing to San Francisco.

On Church Membership.

They also reported that the several resolutions in reference to foreign immigration be embodied in the following resolution :

Resolved, That in the greatly increased immigration from all parts of the world to the United States, we recognize the hand of God, and rejoice at the enlarged opportunity of sowing seed beside all waters, and that it is the duty of our young men to watch, labor and pray that God may enable them to reach all classes of foreigners arriving upon our shores, and especially the Chinese and other Asiatic races.

Adopted.

The committee recommended that we re-affirm the action of the Convention at Detroit last year, which was as follows :

Resolved, That we do seriously advise that each member in our Association should consider it his duty to be heartily engaged in rigid opposition to intemperance, the great enemy of the Church of Christ, and that not only we, but every church member on the continent, should be alive to the work ; and further,

That we, in the name of the Associations, would also most heartily recom-

mend that all who love the Lord Jesus should put forth earnest and persistent efforts to establish and maintain temperance organizations in places where none exist, and especially that our entire force of workers, as individuals, should organize immediately and help sustain juvenile temperance societies, with a view to prevent effectually the evil practice of intemperance and its attendant and damning vices upon the rising generation; adding the following resolution—

Resolved, That it is the duty of Young Men's Christian Associations to do whatever may be practicable in their several localities in resisting the sin of intemperance, and in saving young men from the pernicious power of this evil.

Adopted.

The Committee recommended that the resolution proposed by Sheriff Thomas, of Hamilton, Ontario, be adopted:

Resolved, That the character of the literature supplied to passengers on railways and steamboats is calculated to lower rather than to elevate the standard of Christian morals, and the Associations represented in this Convention will be well employed in using earnest efforts to obtain some improvement in this direction.

Adopted.

The Committee recommended the adoption of the following Resolution offered at Detroit:

Resolved, That this Convention recommend that the right and wrong of the intricate question involved in the use of tobacco and other narcotics be left for each individual to decide between himself and his Saviour, after much prayer.

Adopted.

The Committee recommended the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Executive Committee of the Young Men's Christian Associations be authorized to print and bind at the end of their report of the proceedings of this Convention a list of the deliverances of the several Conventions, since and including the Boston Convention, for the purpose of acquainting the members with the resolutions adopted on several important questions, and thus to save much valuable time in future Conventions.

Adopted.

On motion the Committee on Resolutions were discharged from further duty—with thanks for their services.

The call upon the Associations to aid the general fund, and to subscribe for the monthly periodical and the Convention Journal, was resumed.

The Convention next proceeded to discuss the fourth topic—
“How may the German young men of the country be reached by our influence?”

This discussion also covered the proposed topic, "Shall we organize Associations among young foreigners, and conduct services and publications in their own languages?"

J. Pfarrer, President of the German Y. M. C. A., of New-York City, by request of the Executive Committee, had prepared and here read an address on this topic, establishing the great necessity of overcoming German rationalism which threatens our churches to-day with a flood-tide of infidelity. Our young German men are social, approachable, and friendly, although brought up generally in the school of skepticism. They are to be won over to the Associations and to God, by warm, earnest entreaty, personal interest in their behalf, and the social means of our Y. M. C. Associations.

Rev. J. G. Butler, D. D., of Washington, D. C., thought the problem one hard to solve. The Germans of the country, with their peculiar education, have no respect for our Christian Sabbath, much less for our faith. It is hard to see the way of reaching them effectually. Perhaps the best method is by touching the chords of their social natures, as Bro. Pfarrer suggests. If something is not speedily accomplished in this direction we shall soon have to give up the quietude and consecration of our Christian Sabbath.

Rev. Wm. M. Baum, D. D., of York, Pa., himself a German, thought we owed it to ourselves, for our defense and protection, to use every method to Christianize the Germans. They love association together, and when one is converted his whole intensity of nature becomes a good weapon in the service of our common cause.

A quartette choir then sang "O Come and Work for Jesus," the delegates joining in the chorus, and the Convention resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the topic reported in the resolutions of the Special Committee on the Report of the Executive Committee, viz :

"The importance of State Conventions and the mode in which they may be made most useful and practical."

Rev. J. M. Buckley, of Stamford, Conn., was called to the chair, In accordance with the suggestion of the Special Committee, Mr. Cheever opened the discussion by saying that in Ohio they

have a State Y. M. C. Association, with a State Executive Committee, and the only one he knew of in the country. It had proved a great benefit to the local Associations, from the fact that it gave occasion to form full and complete ideas of the work done in the State, brought all the working elements together and awakened an interest in localities where no Associations had been previously formed. He hoped every State and the Provinces would try the experiment.

Geo. W. Davis of Burlington, Vt., having had a large experience in this direction, was called upon, and spoke warmly of the good results of Y. M. C. State Associations, advising their immediate organization in all the States.

John S. Maclean of Nova Scotia, was surprised to hear that all the Associations in the several States did not have a central organization. In his Province he found such a body to be of incalculable benefit, and a large measure of this was due to the fact that only the live working Associations were represented in it at first. The lukewarm societies finally sent delegates and our Associations found unprecedented favor and growth.

Moses W. Pond of Boston, spoke of a late visit, as delegate, to a Nova Scotia Convention. He was heartily received, hospitably entertained, and could say that for live, spiritual efforts commend him to the Y. M. C. Associations of which Bro. Maclean is a representative man.

L. P. Rowland, of Boston, Mass., remarked that State Associations lead to formation of local ones, while

Henry S. Davis of Cleveland, O., stated that a State Association held in his City, had led to the formation of a Woman's Christian Association there.

Further remarks by Messrs. Tuxbury of Brandon, Vt., and Collins of Newark, N. J., closed the discussion, the speakers having been limited to three minutes each. The topic was then referred to L. P. Rowland of Boston, John H. Worcester, Jr., of Burlington, Vt., and W. H. Atwood of Hudson, N. Y., as a special Committee to draft a resolution expressing the sense of the Committee of the Whole on the subject, and to report the same.

The subject of *representation* was then taken up. Resolutions on the subject, offered by the Committee on Resolutions, were considered, several persons speaking and amendments being offered.

A resolution offered by Gen. O. O. Howard was intended to settle one very important question raised by this committee; it was referred to Gen. Howard, Cephas Brainerd, and Mr. Parkhurst.

It was then voted to take up the subject of Reports from local Young Men's Christian Associations.

A. Jameson of Trenton, N. J., gave a cheering report from his section. The Association is making special efforts in the missionary line, and have found a field of special labor in making weekly visits to destitute portions of the City, the Poor-houses and Penitentiary.

The hymn "Take thy Cross without Repining" was then sung and the local Reports were resumed.

John O. Burrows of Exeter, N. H., said that his Association worked largely among the young men of the Phillips Academy, located there. Many were reached and converted to God.

Ephraim W. Ricker of Farmington, N. H., represented the work in his town to be varied. There are many summer visitors to his section, who are invited to the meetings, many of whom attend; the laborers on the railroad are visited and out-door meetings frequently held. All promise much to the glory of our Common Lord.

Rev. L. C. Partridge of Weybridge, Vt., thought the cause prosperous in the upper region of the Green Mountain State. The Association pursues an even tenor of work and has reason to be glad of frequent accessions to its membership and the churches.

Geo. H. Grant of Richmond, Ind., gave a glowing account of the labors of the Association there, resulting in the conversion of 500 souls.

Here the Committee rose and sung, "Praise God from whom all Blessings flow;" and the Convention's session was resumed.

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of representation, reported, through Gen. Howard, as follows:

"The Special Committee appointed on the subject of representation beg leave to report :

1st. That the Associations organized after this date shall be entitled to representation in future Conferences of the Associated Y. M. C. Associations of North America, upon conditions that they be severally composed of young men in communion with Evangelical churches (provided that in places where Associations are formed by a single denomination, members of other denominations are not excluded therefrom) and active membership, and the right to hold office be conferred only upon young men who are members in good standing in Evangelical churches."

The report was adopted.

The afternoon Session then adjourned, with benediction by Rev. Samuel F. Upham of Boston, Mass.

FRIDAY—EVENING SESSION.

Prior to the Evening Session open-air meetings were held in front of the new and old City Halls, on the Eastern Promenade, and at the head of Long Wharf. The one at the old City Hall, conducted by L. P. Rowland, Jr., of Boston, Mass., was especially interesting. After an eloquent and affectionate exhortation by Rev. Samuel F. Upham of the same city, several asked for prayers.

The Convention assembled at seven o'clock, being called to order by the President; the old hymn, "Come thou fount of every blessing," was sung, a portion of Scripture (Acts II.) was read by Rev. Wm. M. Martin of Brooklyn, N. Y., and prayer offered by Rev. E. A. Buck of Fall River, Mass. Reading of the minutes being dispensed with, the audience sang, "Go and tell Jesus," after which the President informed the Convention that they were cordially invited to visit the tomb of the Rev. Edward Payson, a man whose memory is hallowed in every Christian heart.

The questions from the question drawer were taken up as follows :

1st. "How shall colored men, who propose to start a Y. M. C. Association begin?"

Answered by Gen. Clinton B. Fisk of St. Louis, Mo., who said

that colored folks have a right to do, and should do, just as the whites would do in such a matter.

2d. "What success has attended Association newspapers?"

D. L. Moody of Chicago, Ill., replied, "Little." The "Working Christian" paper has paid, but on the whole I doubt the expediency of starting papers indiscriminately."

3d. "How can Mission Sunday Schools be best sustained?"

Mr. Moody also answered this, "By work," and this again formed his reply to the 5th query:

"How can Associations in country towns be made to live?"

4th. "What is the best way to conduct Association Bible Classes?"

Answered briefly by D. Bentley and A. Duff of Montreal, and James Stokes, Jr., of New-York. Our Bible classes should be as instructive as possible. To secure this, take a certain chapter in the Bible; go minutely into the geographical, personal and historical facts, institute comparisons with profane history where possible, but never lose sight of the great central fact of Bible study, the salvation of souls.

6th. "What is the duty of a Y. M. C. A. Church Committee?"

Answered by R. R. McBurney of New-York, who regarded such a committee a very important adjunct to the true work of our Societies. By introducing members to each other, finding out the strangers in the congregation and inviting them to our rooms, much aid can be rendered the pastors, and the Churches and Associations largely augmented.

7th. "Is it expedient to hold a prayer meeting in a church on an evening when the pastors of the church desire to hold one?"

O. B. Douglass, of Brattleboro, Vt., thought, in reply, that Associations never should interfere with the churches. In event of a circumstance like that stated in the question, see the pastor and make a compromise, if necessary. Our pastors, as a body, are in hearty sympathy with us, but their special province is the church, and in that relation they ought never to be disturbed. Any right-minded pastor will make concessions to us if expedient and for the best interests of his church.

8th. "How can we best raise money to carry on our work?"

John Wanamaker, of Philadelphia, Pa., thought that the prior

discussion of the finance question answered the query, and he would simply reply: "Get cautious, Christian business men to do your Association business. They would raise money and best invest it."

9th. "How may Y. M. C. Associations in the country best organize their working forces?"

W. H. Hodgkins, of East Somerville, Mass., replied: "Get together in the best place you can, and unite in earnest prayer for God's direction. He will guide you, and prayer is the secret of all success."

10th. "What shall be done among the Chinese landing on the Pacific shore, to counteract the evil influences brought to bear upon them?"

Gen. O. O. Howard believed that the Chinese are being sent here to receive the Gospel. They must be Christianized, and in the first place feel that we have sympathy with them. This can be done by learning their language and teaching them ours. Then, raise up missionaries from among their own numbers.

H. L. Chamberlain, of San Francisco, Cal., regarded the question as one of decided magnitude. The Chinese seem to be acute, witty, ready imitators, and anxious to learn. Our people in California now help the Chinese only from mercenary motives. The first move of our Christian effort should be to do away with the present system of what is near bondage.

Gen. Howard here led in prayer that a general sympathy in behalf of the Chinese might grow up in all the churches of the land.

11th. "What has been the effect of the establishment of coffee rooms? Are they self-sustaining?"

Lang Sheaf, of Cincinnati, O., replied: "The effect with us is good. One has been the means of closing up six rum shops. They can be made self-sustaining anywhere."

12th. "What has been the effect of admitting boys to our Associations?"

Alfred Wickes, of Brooklyn, N. Y., considered the effect upon boys to be good; but, it is not expedient to admit them to active membership when not members of some Evangelical Church.

13th. "What are city Associations to do in regard to requests for help?"

D. L. Moody, of Chicago, Ill., said that there was no question on which he desired more information than upon this. Personally he had been bored to death by applications from all sorts of people, for all sorts of assistance, and in several cases imposed upon. He had much faith in the old proverb, "Heaven helps those who help themselves," and it would be a good idea to carry out the idea. See if the applicant for work is as anxious to lug brick as he is to copy records, or to shovel dirt as to use a yard stick. When one of your Association goes to a distant city give him a letter of introduction, to save us from trouble, and him from unnecessary delays and mortification, perhaps. For one, I am determined to secure railroad passes for no able bodied man; I have been so frequently and shamefully imposed upon in this direction.

14th. "How can we best reach and influence criminals in prison?"

Rev. George P. Wilson, of Lawrence, Mass., replied: "Just as you would go about any other work for Christ. There must be plenty of love in the heart."

Sheriff Thomas, of Hamilton, Dominion of Canada, had for years been in contact with prisoners of all grades. He would win them to Christ by first gaining their personal confidence, and not betraying it. Have affectionate personal interviews, and show them that one at least does not believe them destitute of all honor or manhood. Teach them self-respect, then dwell on the enormity of the crime that incarcerated them, not to debase them, but as a matter for them to reflect on, and thus gradually approach the topic of salvation.

15th. "How can the proper relation of our Associations to our churches be sustained?"

Rev. E. Mix, of Orange, N. J., replied, that to effect this the members of our Associations should feel that what work they accomplish is done by them as church members.

The concluding question touched every heart, and there were many visibly affected to tears at its recital. It was:

16th. "I professed religion in youth, backslid, and have lost all feeling. How may I obtain evidence that I am a Christian?"

H. Thane Miller, of Cincinnati, O., replied briefly, pointing

the anxious inquirer to Christ, and led the Convention in prayer for his speedy conversion. The beautiful hymn, "Brother, hast thou wandered far?" was sung, and prayer again offered by Gen. O. O. Howard.

The questions from the drawer having been disposed of, the Convention proceeded to discussion of the following topic :

"The relation of the Associations on this continent to each other, as independent organizations, but similarly constituted, and having a common work and aim ; and their united power in promoting the cause of Christ among the young men of America."

John S. Maclean, President of the Y. M. C. Association of Halifax, N. S., opened the discussion by saying that he thought we could learn a good lesson of fraternity from the order of Free Masons. Although not a member of that order himself, he understood that they had certain signs and grips whereby one mason could always make himself known in any part of the world to another. We ought, as members of the Y. M. C. Associations, to know each other better, personally ; to hold frequent correspondence with one another through our Secretaries, and reciprocate all the courtesies shown us by any one Association. For instance, let the Corresponding Secretary of an Association drop a line to any other, inquiring after its material and spiritual progress. The answers to such a correspondence, if general, would be of much suggestive value, and awaken new home interest. We need to be more social and less ritual.

Associations from smaller cities and towns being requested to follow, in consideration of this topic,

H. B. Chamberlain, of Oswego, N. Y., narrated an incident coming under his own experience, as Corresponding Secretary of his Association. A member of the Oswego Association went West for labor. He searched about fruitlessly and reached Chicago, *en route* homeward, where his money failed him. Being destitute, he applied for a loan to the Chicago Y. M. C. Association, whose Secretary immediately wrote the speaker to see if the applicant was worthy the help. An affirmative reply being sent, Chicago loaned the young man ten dollars, on credit of the Oswego Association, and he came home saved in soul by this act of fraternal charity. We want more of this practical fraternity.

E. M. Boynton, of Grand Rapids, Mich., W. N. Rudolf, of Pictou, N. S., Alexander Bartlett, of Windsor, Canada, Silas Farmer, of Detroit, Mich., and B. B. Johnson, of Waltham, Mass., spoke briefly in the same strain, each urging the importance of always providing members of our Associations with letters of introduction, when away from home.

The discussion being ended, a select quartette sang, "When we cross the Jasper Sea," and the Committee on Business reported, through its chairman, as follows:

Your Committee on Business would respectfully recommend that, at the session of to-morrow morning, the following topic be discussed, "How can Associations best be organized in our smaller cities and towns, and what form of Christian work has been most useful among them?" To be opened by O. B. Douglass, of Brattleboro, Vt.

That the report of the Committee appointed at the Detroit Convention, to organize a Lecture Bureau, be made the special order for 11 o'clock.

Benediction having been pronounced by Rev. B. M. Frink, of Portland, Me., the Convention adjourned till Saturday morning, at 9 o'clock.

On Friday evening, a meeting was also held in St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, under the auspices of the Convention. It was presided over by H. D. Hyde, of Boston, Mass., and partook entirely of a devotional nature. The house was crowded, and exhortations to repentance and Christian life were made by Rev. J. M. Buckley, of Stamford, Conn., Prof. D. Wilson, of Toronto, Canada, Gen. O. O. Howard, of Washington, D. C., L. P. Rowland, Jr., of Boston, Mass., D. L. Moody, of Chicago, Ill., H. Thane Miller, of Cincinnati, and Rush S. Denig, of Columbus, Ohio.

A pleasing incident of the day was the dinner given at the Falmouth House, by the delegates from Pittsburgh, Pa., to the entire Pennsylvania delegation. It resulted in a general acquaintance, and resolutions to hold a State Convention in October next.

FOURTH DAY—SATURDAY, JULY 17, 1869.

Morning prayer-meetings were held at 6 o'clock, in the First Baptist Church, (O. B. Douglass, of Vermont, leader,) and at 8:30 in the State Street Church, H. Colby, of Mansfield, Ohio, leader.

MORNING SESSION.

The Convention came to order at 9 o'clock, and was opened by singing, "Battling for the Lord," reading of the Scriptures by Rev. L. H. Austin, of Manchester, Vt., and Prayer by the Rev. A. M. McGregor, of Brockville, Canada.

The minutes of yesterday having been read and approved, the Special Committee on the Report of the Executive Committee reported as follows, through its Chairman :

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be authorized to make such arrangements as they may deem best as to publishing the periodical, or in any other way securing a publication of the news from the Associations. In view of the difficulty experienced by the Executive Committee in obtaining reports of the work of Associations in the various States and Provinces represented in Convention, therefore

Resolved, That every corresponding member be required to report to the Executive Committee four times each year, viz., February, May, August, and November.

The Corresponding Members were next reported for the ensuing year, the names being announced by delegations as follows : Rhode Island, E. R. Holden ; Vermont, O. B. Douglass ; Ohio, J. H. Cheever ; Indiana, H. H. Judson ; Maryland, Rev. Robert H. Williams ; Michigan, Silas Farmer ; Wisconsin, H. J. Cowles ; California, John Armstrong, Jr. ; Pennsylvania, Thos. K. Cree, Jr. ; Massachusetts, L. P. Rowland, Jr. ; Connecticut, Newton Fuller ; New Hampshire, Chas. W. Moore ; New Jersey, Wm. J. Carlton ; Maine, B. N. Towle ; New-York, John I. Platt ; Illinois, W. H. Woods ; Minnesota, W. O. Hiskey ; Nebraska, Wm. R. Bentley ; Iowa, Geo. R. Ransom ; Missouri, E. S. Greenwood ; Kentucky, John L. Wheat ; Ontario, Wm. Anderson, Toronto ; Quebec, J. R. Dougall, Montreal ; Nova Scotia, Jas. Farquhar, Halifax ; New Brunswick, J. L. Clawson, St. Johns ; P. Edward's Island, R. W. Sprague, Charlottetown.

H. Thane Miller called the attention of the Convention to the work of completing the call for responses from the Association for the general fund, the periodical and report.

A liberal addition was made to the subscription list, and the gift of a gold sovereign from M. H. Hodder, Esq., delegate from England, to be appropriated to Association work in the South, greatly quickened the flowing of money, especially for that specific object.

It was suggested that the gift of Mr. Hodder should be offered for sale for the benefit of the fund; accordingly the President put it up, and lively bids were given for it—disposed of at last to D. L. Moody for the Chicago Association for \$150. It was resold to O. Moore, of Somerville for \$50.

At that rate of exchange Mr. Hodder offered another sovereign, which the President, Mr. Dodge, took for \$150.

Mr. Dow, of Halifax, Nova Scotia, presented another sovereign for the same purpose, which the Fall River Association took for \$60.

A five dollar Canada bank note offered to the fund was taken by the Philadelphia Association for \$150.

A gentleman from Salem, Ohio, offered a Maximilian silver dollar, which Philadelphia also took at \$50, to be appropriated to aid Mr. Riley in his work and labor of love in Mexico.

The same coin was resold for \$50, to go to John Vassar, missionary to the Chinese, and others, on the line of the Pacific and Union Railroad, to aid in the circulating of good reading among them.

A silver dollar, struck off at New Orleans, in 1860 by the rebels, was sold for \$10.

A lady in the gallery sent down \$10 for the freedmen. Other sums were given, the whole amounting to about \$2,000.

At the suggestion of Mr. Miller, of Ohio, prayer was offered that God would accept these offerings, and accompany them with His blessing, in which D. L. Moody, of Chicago, led with much emotion.

Rev. Dr. Wylie, of Philadelphia, in behalf of George H. Stuart, who was detained from the meetings by illness, added \$100 to the Southern fund. Dr. W. was spoken of as the pastor of the church of which Mr. Stuart is a member, and nobly stood by him when he was censured for singing hymns unauthorized by the Synod. At his suggestion, prayer was offered for Mr. Stuart, in which S. W. Stebbins of New-York led.

LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

	For Southern Agent.	For Expense of Executive Committee.	No. Copies of Proceedings.	No. Copies of Periodical.		For Southern Agent.	For Expense of Executive Committee.	No. Copies of Proceedings.	No. Copies of Periodical.
MAINE.					Roxbury.....	\$10 00	5	5	
Bangor.....		\$5 00	5	5	Stoneham.....	10 00	4	10	
Bath.....		25 00	5	10	Sandwich.....	5 00	2	2	
Biddeford.....		5 00	1	1	Salem.....	20 00	5	5	
Portland.....		25 00	10	50	Springfield.....	25 00	10	10	
Saccharappa.....		10 00	2	5	South Deerfield.....	50 00	1	1	
Waterville.....		50 00	1	1	Somerville.....	50 00	5	10	
Brunswick.....		25 00	5	10	West Amesbury.....	5 00	1	1	
Freeport.....		5 00	1	1	Waltham.....	10 00	5	5	
Lewiston.....	\$25 00		1		Worcester.....	25 00	10	10	
Buxton, (Rev. J. Smith).....					Westfield.....	25 00	10	15	
NEW HAMPSHIRE.					Wakefield.....	10 00	1	1	
Concord.....		25 00	10	25	Winchester.....	5 00	5	5	
Dover.....		10 00	4	20	Woburn.....	25 00	5	5	
Exeter.....		10 00	2	2	RHODE ISLAND.				
Farmington.....		30 00	5	20	Bristol.....	20 00	5	10	
Great Falls.....		20 00	2	4	Providence.....	50 00	10	30	
Manchester.....		10 00	5	5	Panucket.....	25 00	10	10	
Nashua.....		25 00	5	5	Westerly.....	20 00	6	8	
S. Falls.....		10 00	5	3	Wakefield.....		3		
VERMONT.					CONNECTICUT.				
Burlington.....		25 00	10	5	Colchester.....	15 00	5	10	
Brattleboro.....		25 00	5	10	Danielsonville.....	10 00	5	1	
O. B. Douglass for silver dollar.....	15 00				Guilford.....	10 00	2	4	
Dummerston.....		5 00	3		Hartford.....	5 00	5	5	
Manchester.....		15 00	2	5	Meriden.....	25 00	5	5	
Norwich.....		5 00	2	3	Milford.....	5 00	1	1	
Peacham.....		10 00	1	1	Mythic Bridge.....	10 00	5	10	
Pittsford.....		5 00	2	1	New Britain.....	5 00	2	3	
Pern.....		5 00	1	1	Norwich.....	10 00	10	10	
Rutland.....		25 00	5	5	Putnam.....	5 00	2	3	
St. Johnsbury.....		10 00	10	10	Plantville.....	20 00	4	10	
Stowe.....		5 00	2	2	Stamford.....	25 00	2	3	
Waybridge, (Part ridge).....	40 00				Winnet.....	15 00	2	10	
MASSACHUSETTS.					" A Member.....	50 00			
Attleboro.....		5 00	4	2	NEW-YORK.				
Andover.....		25 00	5	10	Albany.....	100 00	10	50	
Boston.....		110 00	10	25	Amsterdam.....	25 00	10	10	
Belchertown.....		10 00	4	4	Binghamton.....		5		
Chicopee.....		5 00	1	1	Brooklyn, (80 Fulton Avenue).....	500 00	50	50	
Charlestown.....		50 00	10	25	Brooklyn, E. D. (Myrtle Avenue).....	20 00	10	10	
East Weymouth.....		50 00	5	5	Hudson.....	25 00	10	5	
Fall River.....		100 00	100	10	North Shore, S. L.....	20 00	10	10	
Wm. M. Hains, Confederate dollar in debt by Association for.....	60 00				Newtown.....	25 00	5	5	
Greenfield.....		10 00	2	2	New-York.....	250 00	1 000 00	50	150
Grafton.....		15 00	2	4	W. E. Dodge, Jr.....	150 00			
Holden.....		10 00	5	5	H. W. Adams, of "Christian at Work".....	100 00			
Haverhill.....		10 00	5	10	Oswego.....	50 00	20 00	5	25
Holliston.....		15 00	2	3	Owego.....	5 00	1	1	
Holyoke.....		20 00	5	10	Poughkeepsie.....	20 00	5	20	
Hyde Park.....		10 00	1	1	Syracuse.....	20 00	10	10	
Lawrence.....		25 00	10	10	Schenectady.....	20 00	10	2	
Lowell.....		50 00	10	25	Union.....	20 00	2	4	
Leominster.....		5 00	2	1	Williamsburg.....	20 00	3	2	
Lynn.....		25 00	2	2	NEW JERSEY.				
Leicester.....		15 00	2	2	Elizabeth.....	25 00	10	10	
Middleboro.....		30 00	5	10	Jersey City.....	25 00	10	10	
Midford.....		5 00	5	5	Montclair.....	10 00	10	5	
Natick.....		30 00	4	3	Newark.....	25 00	25	10	
Northampton.....		25 00	5	10	New Brunswick.....	25 00	5	10	
North Brookfield.....		30 00	5	5	Orange.....	25 00	5	10	
Orange.....		10 00	2	3	Trenton.....	25 00	20	5	
Rockport.....		10 00	2	2	West Hoboken and Hudson City.....	50 00	10	10	
Rutland.....		5 00	1	1	Oregon.....				
					Portland.....	5 00	5	5	

	For Southern Agent.	For Expenses of Executive Committee.	No. Copies of Proceedings.	No. Copies of Periodical.		For Southern Agent.	For Expenses of Executive Committee.	No. Copies of Proceedings.	No. Copies of Periodical.
PENNSYLVANIA.					IOWA.				
Bethlehem.....		\$30 00	24	34	Clinton.....		5 00	2	3
Easton.....		20 00	5	2	Des Moines.....		25 00	2	5
Pittsburgh.....		50 00	15	5	WISCONSIN.				
Philadelphia.....	\$50 00	500 00	50	100	Fon du Lac.....		20 00	5	5
Geo. H. Stuart for Canada Bill.	100 00				Madison.....		10 00	5	5
York.....		25 00	10	10	MICHIGAN.				
WEST VIRGINIA.					Adrian.....		10 00	5	3
Wheeling.....		35 00	5		Detroit.....		100 00	10	30
DEPT. OF COLUMBIA.					East Saginaw.....		10 00	3	3
Washington.....		50 00	10	25	Grand Rapids.....		25 00	5	5
SOUTH CAROLINA.					Hilledale, (Association 5, C. P. Griffin 15).....		20 00	3	1
Charleston.....		30 00	5	10	Jackson.....		20 00	5	10
DIO.					Kalamazoo.....		20 00	5	10
Cincinnati.....		150 00	25	100	Munroe.....		5 00	2	3
Wm. H. Doane.....	200 00				Olivet.....		10 00	4	1
Columbus.....		25 00	10	5	MINNESOTA.				
Cleveland.....		50 00	10	25	Mankato.....		20 00	1	4
Elyria.....		20 00			Rochester.....		10 00	5	5
Hamilton.....		5 00	1	1	Blake.....	\$20 00			
Mansfield.....		25 00	15	10	CALIFORNIA.				
D. Sturgis.....	50 00				San Francisco.....		100 00	10	20
Colley.....	100 00				Barstow.....	10 00			
Oberlin, (E. J. Goodrich) alem.....		10 00	2	2	CANADA.				
Maximilian dollar.....	1 00		1	1	Hamilton, (Sheriff Thomas).....		20 00		
Shelby.....		5 00	3	3	Montreal.....		50 00	25	30
Toledo.....		15 00	5	10	Toronto.....		20 00	10	10
Zanesville.....		10 00	2	3	NOVA SCOTIA.				
INDIANA.					Lyons Brook.....		3 00	2	1
Indianapolis.....		25 00	10	10	New Glasgow.....		10 00	10	10
Mishawaka.....		5 00	5	5	Pictou.....		10 00	5	5
Richmond.....		25 00	6	5	Halifax.....		30 00	20	10
ILLINOIS.					Windsor, (Hantz Co.).....		5 00	3	1
Chicago.....		100 00			NEW BRUNSWICK.				
D. L. Moody.....	175 00				St. John.....		20 00	5	10
MISSOURI.					MARYLAND.				
Kansas City.....		15 00	2	4	Baltimore, (Glasco).....	20 00	100 00	25	30
NEBRASKA.					Harrisonville.....		10 00	2	2
Omaha.....		20 00	2	2					

A report from the Business Committee was read and adopted. United in singing

"We're marching on with shield and banner bright."

Alfred Wickes, of Brooklyn, N. Y., asked and received permission to read the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the hearty sympathies of this Convention be accorded to Bro. Riley in his missionary work in the Republic of Mexico, and pray that the contribution which has been generously devoted to his use may be blessed in the regeneration of young men in Mexico, and that many may be gathered through his agency into the army of the Lord.

The topic, "What associational work has been found most successful in smaller towns?" was then taken up and discussed in three-minute speeches by Messrs. O. B. Douglass, of Brattleboro,

Vt., Ripley, Crouse, Briggs, Bacon, Baldwin, Weaver, Pearl, Hawes, Wright, Hotchkiss, Delany, Burroughs and Hall; each speaker dwelt on the necessity of personal calls upon and conversations with the unconverted.

The Business Committee reported the following letter, as having been sent in reply to the Colored Y. M. C. A. of Washington, D. C. :

PORTLAND, July 16, 1869.

To the Colored Young Men's Christian Association of Washington, D. C. :

DEAR BRETHREN :—We have received your communication, and it gives us great pleasure to express our sincere affection for you as co-workers in the same great cause. We hail you in the spirit of Christian Fraternity and Equality. We rejoice in every new right or privilege which you obtain, in every new movement of an educational, religious or philanthropical character in which you engage, and shall both pray and labor for your prosperity. We also most earnestly invite you to send delegates to our next and all subsequent conventions.

Also a response to the telegram of the National Camp Meeting at Round Lake, N. Y.

Vice-President Clinton B. Fiske, here took the chair, and called for the report of the Lecture Bureau.

Rev. W. M. Martin, Chairman, presented the following

Report of the International Lecture Bureau of Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces, to the Fourteenth International Convention, Portland, Maine, July 14, 1869 :

DEAR BRETHREN,—In presenting this, their First Annual Report, to their constituency, the Bureau desire to express a sense of their many short-comings during the season which is past. They have already taken occasion to do this in the circulars relating to the next season, but deem it proper, also, to make official mention of it here. These short-comings were partially the natural out-growth of laboring in a new field, with little of others' experience from which to draw ; while the correspondence resulting from the issue of the first circulars multiplied so rapidly, and so far exceeded the anticipations which had been formed, that, until special provision was made for its conduct, by the employment of the Secretary's whole time, at a salary of \$1,500, the members of the Bureau found it quite impossible, in the stress of other business responsibilities, to meet promptly and strictly in every case the large draught upon their time, made by the demands of the new organization. Still, they believe it but just to themselves to say that the deficiencies of the last season were *mainly* owing to the fact that the Bureau was organized so late in the year that many of the lecturers, whose sympathy and co-operation it was most desirable to secure, had already completed their arrangements for the season of 1868 and '69. Having profited by the experience of the past, and provided for the systematic arrangement and prompt despatch of all Bureau business in the future, we look forward

to the coming season, confident that it will be characterized by a much larger degree of success.

The number of letters and telegrams sent since the organization of the Bureau is upwards of 1,200, 250 of them since the close of the last season. Number of circulars sent, 3,000. Number of engagements made last season, 69.

It may seem remarkable, at first sight, that so many letters should be necessary to effect so few engagements, but it will be understood that much correspondence is without direct result, being answers to various inquiries from Associations and lecturers. Nor is it believed that these figures are above the usual average. An eminent lecturer of twenty-seven years' experience informs us that it required 1,800 letters, on his part alone, to effect his last season's engagements.

Besides the time consumed in writing, copying, registering and inclosing these letters and circulars, and in laying out routes, much time and some money has been spent in reaching desirable lecturers, and personally pressing the claims of the Associations upon their attention, which generally is far more effectual than sending them letters. During the coming season all this labor will vastly increase.

So much for *the past*. The *future* opens with *great promise*. Our first circular for the coming season was issued as early as January, and the second in April. The first referred especially to Mr. John B. Gough, who has heartily and generously co-operated with us, placing his eminent services largely at our disposal. The second contained the principal list of lecturers, and, we believe, will compare *very* favorably, as regards the reputation of the names which there appear, with the circulars of any other bureau in the country. It has already been highly complimented by those who have long been eminent in the lecture field. Our supplementary list will embrace, among other names, those of Mr. Frederick Douglass and Miss Anna E. Dickinson.

In this connection the Bureau desire to express their high appreciation of the warm sympathy and hearty endorsement which the new enterprise has received from those lecturers whose sympathy and endorsement are most valuable.

It is well known that there are some lecturers in the field whose mental abilities are of the highest order, but who have the reputation of instilling into their platform efforts a plausible—and because plausible, therefore most dangerous—scepticism with regard to the character and mission of Jesus Christ. The names of these do not appear upon our list. While holding their talents (and themselves as citizens) in the highest regard, your Bureau considered themselves instructed, both from what was said upon this subject at the Detroit Convention and on the petition of 119 members, and by the Committee who were intrusted with its organization, not to open correspondence with these lecturers. Nevertheless, applications for them have often been received from Young Men's Christian Associations, and many not finding their names upon the Bureau list have engaged them by direct correspondence.

To reform the platform, and secure its great power in the influence of truth, was one of the grand objects in organizing this Bureau. To accomplish this end, it must meet the cordial support of the Associations desirous and capable of sustaining lectures. Two hundred applications have already been made for the coming season, and if, with the vantage ground already gained, it receives the practical and moral support of the great corporation which it represents we believe the time is not far distant when it will achieve the great aim for

which it was projected. No other institution on the continent can accomplish this work; it legitimately belongs to the Young Men's Christian Associations of America.

In behalf of the Bureau,

WM. M. MARTIN, *Chairman*.

The following is a transcript of the Treasurer's Report :

Total amount of commissions.....		\$690 00
" " " received.....		462 50
" " " due.....		227 50
<i>Or.</i>		
By cash received from commissions.....		\$462 50
" by loan of Executive Committee.....		100 00
		562 50
<i>Dr.</i>		
To cash paid for printing.....	\$53 00	
" " postage.....	76 00	
" " telegrams.....	21 73	
" " Secretary's services.....	411 50	\$562 23
		27

Brooklyn, July 9, 1869.

ALFRED WICKES, *Treasurer*.

General O. O. Howard then moved that this report be accepted and placed on file for publication with the minutes of the Convention, and spoke in favor of his motion. If he ever entered the lecture field again, it would be under the auspices of this Bureau.

D. L. Moody, of Chicago, Ill., wished to sound a note of alarm. He thought the day of lectures was gone by. He would have the matters treated of by lecturers left to the daily press. One association lost \$2,500 last year by lectures.

He was followed by Revs. B. M. Frink, of Portland, Me., and J. M. Buckley, of Stamford, Conn., J. R. Sypher, of Philadelphia, Pa., Prof. Daniel Wilson, of Toronto, J. N. Seeley, of Clinton, Iowa, E. M. Boynton, Grand Rapids, Mich., M. H. Hodder, of London, England, and G. O. Robinson, of Detroit, Mich., in favor of the continuance of the Lecture Bureau, while W. B. S. Taylor, of Williamsburgh, N. Y., opposed the measure.

The original motion of General Howard was thereupon seconded and adopted, thus continuing the Bureau, with the proviso that it furnish as lecturers, only those men who are known to be in sympathy with Evangelical religion.

The Convention then took up the subject of locating the next Convention.

The places announced as extending an invitation to the Convention for its session of 1870, were San Francisco, Cal., Chicago, Ill., Washington, D. C., and Indianapolis, Ind.

Prayer having been offered, H. L. Chamberlain, of the first named city, gave the Convention the greetings of the "Golden Gate," and hoped that as they could make the trip by rail, they would be disposed to "come and see" the Pacific shore. He assured them that a hospitable welcome was in store for them, and that satisfactory arrangements could be made with the Pacific railroads.

General O. O. Howard, of Washington, D. C., and Rev. J. E. Grammer, D.D., of Baltimore, Md., thought that the Convention was needed at the National Capitol. It might be a blessing to Congress. It would bring back the Associations of the South, and result in cementing a national bond of good will.

D. L. Moody, of Chicago, Ill., having presented the name of that city, for the purpose of obtaining the floor in favor of Indianapolis, spoke earnestly in that direction.

Rev. J. B. Brandt and J. M. Lamb, of Indianapolis, Ind., presented the formal invitation from their city, and after a pleasant interlocutory discussion, the City of Indianapolis, Indiana, was designated as the place of holding the next annual International Y. M. C. A. Convention, after which the session adjourned.

SATURDAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Convention re-assembled at three o'clock, sang, "Shall we Gather at the River," a portion of Scripture was read by Rev. Neil McKay, of St. John's, N. B., and prayer offered by Rev. W. R. Eastman, of Plantsville, Conn.

The Special Committee on the Executive Committee's Report, submitted the following resolution :

Resolved, That the wonderful progress of the institution in whose interest we are assembled, has reached, under God's blessing, such proportions, and gives so great promise as to future growth and usefulness, that in the judgment of this Convention, the time has come when the Executive Committee should be instructed and empowered to make such sub-division of its prerogatives and responsibilities as shall secure the more thorough and detailed systematizing of

the work among the States and Provinces represented in this body ; and this Convention does hereby request and authorize such action by the Executive Committee as shall fully organize the institution as a religious power on this continent.

Adopted.

The same Committee presented the following paper :

The condition of business being such that no suitable time can be set apart for the hearing of oral reports from corresponding members of the Executive Committee, the Committee on the Report of the Executive Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That the Executive Committee print, as a part of their report, the reports of the following corresponding members for the last year, being all that have been presented, viz. : F. L. Dingley, C. M. Wyman, O. B. Douglass, L. P. Rowland, Jr., H. P. Hoadley, E. R. Holden, J. I. Platt, W. J. Carlton, Rev. R. H. Williams, V. C. Dibble, J. H. Cheever, H. H. Judson, W. H. Woods, S. Farmer, H. J. Cowles, G. R. Ransom, W. R. Bentley, L. E. Sleigh, T. J. Claxton, W. Anderson and J. Farquhar.

Adopted.

The Executive Committee reported the receipt of a letter from the Dublin Association, which was ordered to be read. It is as follows :

THE DUBLIN YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION,
54 UPPER SACKVILLE STREET,

3d July, 1869.

To the Executive Committee of the Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces of America.

BRETHREN, BELOVED IN THE LORD,—

We are in receipt of your circular, convening the Fourteenth Annual Conference of the American Young Men's Christian Associations, to be held at Portland, on the 14th inst. We regret that, owing to the distance which separates us, we cannot be represented amongst you on that occasion ; but we desire to assure you that we regard the approaching Convention with the deepest interest, and that our prayers shall ascend, in harmony with yours, to our common Father, that His guidance and blessing may accompany all your deliberations.

Whether we regard the subjects that are to be considered, or the range of the influence which your decisions respecting them will exercise, we cannot fail to be deeply impressed with a sense of the importance of this Convention. From time to time we have been greatly cheered and gratified in hearing of your progress :—the extension and perfection of your organization, the energy and devotedness of your members, and the blessed results which God has given as the fruit of your labor for Him ; and we desire on this occasion to convey to you some expression of our sincere brotherly sympathy with you in our great and common enterprise.

Our sphere is comparatively limited, yours may almost be said to have no bounds; and yet we cannot say that we have done all (or anything like it) that we could wish, or even that we might have done. The constant development of the resources of your great country continually attracts the youth and energy of other countries towards you, and especially of our own; while the prosperity or adversity which attends their path too often becomes a snare to drag them into the ways of folly, dissipation and vice. To meet this state of things, we know from experience that the Young Men's Christian Association, working through the instrumentality of its members, is admirably adapted by the living, loving efforts of young Christian men, who seek to win the careless and the sinning for the Lord Jesus Christ. Only let it be for Jesus. To reform the profane or immoral is doubtless a great work, so far as society is concerned; yet if it end there, we have done but little for the individual himself. Let us never be satisfied till we bring the erring one to Jesus, the Friend and the Saviour of sinners.

We trust the day for united prayer throughout the world will not be forgotten by the Convention. We remember with thankfulness the first invitation to united prayer which we received from you three years ago. From that time we can distinctly trace a revival in our work here, and indeed I think I may add, in various parts of this country also. We want more prayer—believing, earnest prayer—and doubtless the blessing shall be given abundantly. Our work is only opening before us. We are, as it were, only beginning. May we have grace humbly to address ourselves to it, and diligently to persevere therein, that we may be instrumental in winning many souls that shall be as jewels in our Saviour's crown.

Praying that the blessing and guidance of the Most High be upon your Convention, and that it may be rich in results to the glory of His name, and in bonds of Christian love,

I remain, dear brethren,

Yours, in our Lord Jesus,

JOS. JAMES, *Hon. Sec.*

In response to the following vote of the Convention, "That the President of this Convention prepare suitable resolutions expressive of the thanks of the Y. M. C. Associations of the United States and British America to H. T. Miller, for the able and impartial manner in which he has presided over the International Convention,"—Major-General Clinton B. Fiske, of St. Louis, (in behalf of the President, to whom the matter had been referred), presented the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Convention takes sincerest satisfaction in placing upon record, the expression of its deep indebtedness to Bro. H. Thane Miller, of Cincinnati, for the able, impartial and impressive manner in which he has presided over and directed the proceedings of the Conventions, held in 1866 at Albany, in 1867 at Montreal, and in 1868 at Detroit; and we acknowledge gratefully our obligations to the Master of Assemblies for the blessed results with which His Holy Spirit has crowned the efforts of our dear brother—causing even the busi-

ness and deliberations of these several Conventions to bear fruit in the development of our individual piety, and in the conversion of souls to Christ.

Unanimously adopted.

Mr. Miller in his peculiar and impressive manner, briefly and modestly responded—imploring that God's blessing might ever attend the Convention, and the various associations represented.

The Convention then united in singing,

"Jesus by the Sea."

The following question as reported by the Business Committee, next received the attention of the Convention: "What relation should women sustain in the work of our Y. M. C. Associations."

The discussion was introduced by H. Thane Miller, of Ohio, who thought that while they might become associated members, yet he judged that it were better that there should be separate organizations for them.

Three minutes assigned to each subsequent speaker were improved by W. F. Stetson, of Boston Highlands, Mass.; N. F. Wheeler, of Worcester, Mass.; H. H. Judson, of Mishawaka, Ind.; J. Baldwin, of Newburgh, N. Y.; H. N. Lester, of Binghamton, N. Y.; G. E. Lovejoy, of Lowell, Mass.; M. W. Pond and Russel Sturgis, Jr., of Boston; and J. G. Parkhurst, of Providence, R. I.

The information imparted, related to the important work which women could do, and in many cases had already accomplished—a work akin to that of the Young Men's Christian Associations. Much of the work was better adapted for women. There was enough for all. They could co-operate with each other. The brethren from Boston referred to the organization of the Young Women's Christian Association in that city. In Lewiston, the Young Men's Association established prayer meetings in the boarding houses of operatives of the factories, and left them in charge of the women of the churches.

The next topic was: "How are persons admitted to membership in our Associations, and what is the best mode for the adoption of the Associations on this subject."

Vice-President, Professor Daniel Wilson, LL.D., of Toronto, Canada, in the Chair.

Remarks were made by R. R. McBurney, of New-York ; D. L. Moody, of Chicago ; J. H. Cheever and Lang Sheaf, of Cincinnati ; N. Cain, of Schenectady, N. Y. ; E. O. Foss, of Dover, N. H. ; T. D. Hall, of Pittsford, Vt. ; Mr. Blunt, of Andover, Mass. ; Thos. Bale, of Hamilton, N. S. ; W. C. Rummel, of Elizabeth, N. J., and others, who did not announce their names distinctly.

The remarks related chiefly to the qualifications of members, and as to what place they held in the Association—whether they should be eligible to office or control in any way the operations of the body ; or be associated members, without such privilege. In some way, was it contended, all young men should be brought under the influence of the Association.

R. R. McBurney, of New-York, opening the discussion, regarded this question of membership as of most vital importance. Upon our determination of the topic, rests the welfare of our Associations. He was glad that the word “evangelical” had been so strongly pressed to its only correct interpretation, and if that be the basis of all our effective work, we can neither lack members nor success. Let the young men be duly proposed, examine their character and then act understandingly upon their cases.

D. L. Moody, of Chicago, thought that the simpler the methods of making members, the better. In fact, he would not object to making any man a member. If he was a good Christian, we have gained so much working force ; if he proved unconverted, he is just the kind of material we desire to work upon.

This brief debate closed by singing “I Love to Think of the Heavenly Land,” and the Convention, after Prayer by Rev. W. M. Baum, D.D., of York, Pa., passed to the consideration of the next assigned topic, “How shall we conduct our social meetings in order that they may not be irreligious in their tendencies?”

President Dodge resumed the Chair.

L. P. Rowland, Jr., of Boston, Mass., who opened the discussion, remarked that we drop the *social* element too much. Let our meetings be conducted more in the style of a parlor chat at home ; conversational, and as free from restraint as possible. After the style of Henry Ward Beecher, carry on a colloquial meeting, and

let a hearty shake of the hands all around precede, and a kind good-bye close the gathering.

George E. Lovejoy, of Lowell, Mass., could hardly feel that it is expedient in his city, to open their social meetings to all. At least whether it is so expedient, and how to do it, are questions he would like to have answered. Shall we welcome the Magdalens, now repentant?

A. J. Chase, President of the Portland (Me.) Association, said that the meetings held in Portland, are thoroughly practical. They are open to all, prayers and exhortations are brief, and singing, the best to be had. We must make our social meetings attractive, but never let the tinsel cover the cross from the gaze of sinners. Then follows the social part, *par excellence*. It is possible for a Christian to be so consecrated to the cause of His Master, Christ, that the life shall be always the genial, social outgrowth of a heart which can be happy at all times.

W. N. James, of Hamilton, N. S.; J. B. Taylor, of Boston; R. McConnell, of New Glasgow, Canada; Rev. D. W. Waldron, of East Weymouth, Mass.; James Crawford, of Baltimore, Md.; and Rev. Neil McKay, of St. John, N. B., also spoke on this topic.

It was urged as desirable that social meetings should be appointed and made attractive by music and unexceptionable entertainments, and so conducted, that they might prove a means of recreation and of promoting and encouraging acquaintance with each other; drawing young men away from temptation and evil, to refined and good companionship. Women should aid in this by their presence and help. Examples were given of the good results of such a plan in many places. At the same time the great object of these Associations should not be kept out of sight—the gaining of the soul to Christ.

A delegate spoke of the coming Sabbath, and by permission introduced a resolution referring to the promise,—“where two or three are met together in my name,” &c., proposing that as we meet on Sabbath morning, in various parts of the city, we should pray together, before attending the more public services of the day, bringing others with us to the sanctuary. Adopted.

By consent, H. G. O. Carey, M.D., of Zanesville, O., introduced a resolution, appointing T. A. Reamy, M.D., of Zanesville, Ohio, now in Europe, a representative from this Convention to the Young Men's Christian Associations in foreign lands.

"PRAYER MEETINGS. How shall these be conducted?"

This subject furnished the topic for remarks from Maj.-Gen. Clinton B. Fiske, of St. Louis, Mo.; C. E. Bolton, of Cleveland, O.; Moore, of Somerville, Mass., and J. H. Emminger, of Mansfield, O.

Brevity in prayers and remarks, with directness, earnestness, simplicity; with frequent and hearty singing, were commended.

It was suggested that good examples had been given in this direction, in the prayer meetings held during the week in Portland.

W. J. Carlton, of Elizabeth, N. J., Chairman of the Committee on Credentials, asked leave to make his final report. Number of delegates, 773. Corresponding members, 57. Total, 830.

He also recommended the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Executive Committee prepare a plan for facilitating the preparation of the roll of the Convention for the next year.

Adopted.

J. I. Platt, of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., Chairman of the Business Committee, reported the exercises of this and to-morrow evening.

The Committee on Devotional Services reported for this evening, and to-morrow morning and evening.

By vote of the Convention, all business and discussions closed at half past five o'clock, and the time until six was to be devoted to prayer.

The President yielded the chair to H. Thane Miller, who led the half-hour service.

All rose and sang to the good old tune of "China"

"Alas! and did my Saviour bleed?"

Then a season of silent prayer was had. The remainder of the time was spent in brief and fervent petitions, nearly all in the audience kneeling, with a verse sung occasionally, and a brief remark or request for prayer.

With singing, prayer and the benediction, the Convention adjourned.

SATURDAY—EVENING SESSION.

This was held in the City Hall, on Congress street.

As an introduction to the service, Mr. Doane, of Ohio, accompanied by the cabinet organ, led in singing the hymn, "Sweet Hour of Prayer," in which the large audience promptly joined.

The President, William E. Dodge, Jr., gave out the hymn, "Work, for the Night is Coming," which was sung by the audience—a good example of what singing by the congregation might be.

The twelfth chapter of Isaiah was read by Rev. George F. Tewksbury, of Portland.

Rev. George M. Boynton, of Guilford, Conn., led in prayer.

The President made appropriate opening remarks.

James Stokes, Jr., of New-York, read a letter and report, received by to-day's mail, from the Young Men's Christian Union in Paris, France. Mr. S. added some remarks respecting this and some other Associations in Europe and other countries which he had recently visited or heard from.

PARIS, *July 2d, 1869.*

BRETHREN.—I return your circular with the answers to the questions it contains. I hope it will reach you at Portland just in time for your Convention. We trust the Lord will cause His richest blessings to rest upon your meetings, and fill your hearts with joy and peace in the Holy Ghost. All the members of our Association join me in sending you a cordial Christian greeting, and requesting your earnest prayers on our behalf. Arrangements are being made to carry on Evangelistic operations throughout the whole of Paris, and we hope much good will result from the organized effort which will be attempted next Sunday, to reach the thousands of young men in this large and wicked city who are on the broad road to destruction. Brethren, pray for us.

We trust the Lord will be with you, and bless you abundantly in your great gathering.

"They that feared the Lord spake one to another; and the Lord hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the Lord and that thought upon his name. And they shall be mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them as a man spareth his own son that serveth him." (Malachi iii, 16 and 17).

Brethren, bind this gracious promise to your hearts.

Yours in Christ Jesus,

W. N. COTE,

Secretary.

The President commended the Paris Association to the sympathy and prayers of the Christians of this country, and a visit to it should they go to France. He called on the Rev. J. McC. Holmes, of Hudson, N. Y., to lead in a prayer of thanksgiving for the success which had attended the efforts of this organization, and for His blessing to follow them.

After uniting in this prayer the Convention sang, with great zest, "The Morning Light is Breaking."

The topic for the evening, as announced by the President, was: "How shall we reach and influence for good, the young men coming to our large towns and cities?"

Remarks were made by Wm. F. Lec, of New-York, who referred to the power of an attractive room, furnished by the Association, located in a pleasant street, and to the influence which its members might exert if diligent. He advised using the press by advertising meetings and entertainments liberally, and also the extending to strangers a warm hand of welcome, and a meal, if necessary.

H. L. Chamberlain, of San Francisco, Cal., spoke of the numbers of young men in that city, away from home, and often poor and friendless—and how there, as in all other places, the way to influence them, was to go after them, and take an interest in them.

Matthew Henry Hodder, of London, Eng., could add his testimony as to the happy results which had followed personal effort in England, and within his own observation and knowledge in leading young men into the paths of virtue and piety. Good may be done by inviting them to take a cup of tea with you, of which we think much in our country; by affording them pecuniary aid in a kind and gentle way; by an encouraging word; by writing letters. He thought the secret of getting souls to Christ lies in seizing the best opportunity offered. "As ye have opportunity, do good unto all men." We can do something in our associational capacity, but he desired to feel and have others feel the force of individual responsibility—as YE have opportunity. He spoke of ways to win souls; kind words, helpful acts, and wisdom in awakening interest. One might be too direct; he might not

cautiously prepare the ground for the reception of the Word. He closed with an impressive appeal drawn from the words of Jesus to his disciple, Peter, when he had lapsed from his allegiance: "Lovest thou me?" Individualizing and repeating, he said: "Lovest THOU me?" The speaker's words were very tender and appropriate, and his presence in the Convention proved a source of much pleasure and profit to its members.

William K. Jennings, of Pittsburg, Pa., said that the difficulty was not that we cannot help the young men, but that we do not *set about it*, and often are not *willing* to do it.

The Convention united in singing "Never be Afraid to Speak to Jesus."

Major-General Clinton B. Fiske, of St. Louis, remarked that drafted men did not work as heartily and vigorously as volunteers, and went on to enforce the point of personal effort. If he had ever accomplished any good, by the grace of God it was in this way. He referred to one case where he invited a young man in poverty and rags, to his own house, to his table, and to his family prayers, and to the sweet influence of home, and spoke of the happy results which followed. Pastors may do much by noticing young men, and bringing the attention of the members of their churches and the Associations to them. He spoke of the attractive rooms which have been provided by the Y. M. C. Associations of his city, and said that when young men came to St. Louis the clergymen and members of the Association sought out those who had come as strangers into their midst, and brought them under the influence of their meetings. He spoke of the fact that letters received from mothers whose sons had gone to the West, had often been the means by which, without making known the fact to the young men themselves, those who were wandering, and even far gone, had been reclaimed to virtue and Christianity.

Mr. John Wanamaker, of Philadelphia, was called upon to close the discussion. In his city the Association has a committee to whom business of this sort is especially committed. He would, if possible, keep young men from coming under the necessarily contaminating influences of the cities, but if they come he would

have some one send a letter which would help the Y. M. C. A. to seek them out and to do them good.

The President here made a few well chosen remarks upon the folly of young men coming to the cities with the idea that they may there, in a little while, learn all about business, amass wealth and be ready to return to those whom they have left behind.

Mr. J. R. Sypher, of Philadelphia, said : Young men come to our cities generally with one of two objects in view, viz. : either for the purpose of seeking employment, or to take positions which they have previously engaged. In either case they come among strangers, go into boarding houses, where they are not well situated to spend their evenings ; and the terribleness of the evening hours upon the street, for a young man who is a stranger, no one can over-state. Just here the Young Men's Christian Association comes in to do its work. It sends out its young men to seek and save the stranger, by bringing him into a pleasant hall, where there are books and newspapers and good society. This organization should be supported and encouraged by business men. It helps to make clerks honest and clear-headed. Christians understand well the use of all this, but it should be appreciated also as a measure of business economy.

John I. Platt, of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., spoke of the prayer-meeting as an important agency in helping young men. Get inspiration here, and go out and invite young men into it. He closed by urging the claims of practical, personal piety upon the young men and others present, that they might come to know and receive Christ—whom to know aright is life and peace.

Robert Weidensall, of Omaha, Nebraska, furnished some impressive illustrations of the results of personal effort and attention to the laborers on the line of the Union and Pacific Railroad, where he has been employed among them as a laborer and as a missionary.

The hymn was sung :

" O, how I love Jesus."

The President announced that he had just received a dispatch from the Governor of Maine, which he read :

"I am disappointed in not being able to be present at your meeting, as I hoped. Please accept the assurance of my interest and sympathy.

JOSHUA L. CHAMBERLAIN."

The remarks which followed, by the Rev. S. B. Barnitz, of Wheeling, West Virginia; Rev. J. H. Smyth, of Philadelphia, and Rev. L. R. Fiske, D.D., of Detroit, Michigan, were specially directed to the enforcement of personal piety, holding up Christ Jesus the Lord as the way, and the truth, and the life; and to the acceptance of Him by each one as their Saviour, and guide, and portion, with a new and hearty and sincere consecration to His service and glory.

The Convention then sung the hymn,

"Am I a soldier of the cross?"

John L. Platt, of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., Chairman of the Business Committee, offered the following report:

The Convention desires to express to the Young Men's Christian Association of Portland, its sincere gratitude for the cordial invitation which it gave to the delegates to visit this beautiful city, and for the warmth of the hospitality with which its members received them.

To the Mayor of the city who so heartily welcomed us to the municipality over which he presides.

To the Rev. Dr. Carruthers, who so eloquently addressed us in behalf of the churches of the city.

To the officers of the State Street Congregational Church, and the Rector and officers of the St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in particular. And other churches who have so kindly thrown open their edifices and placed at our control all their facilities.

To our brethren of the various churches, and to our friends generally who have admitted us to their families, and, regardless of their own care, have made every provision for our comfort.

To the railway companies who have reduced their fares for our accommodation.

To such hotels as have done the same.

To the Press of the city, and the correspondents of other papers, who have given our discussions so wide a circulation.

And to the citizens who have attended our sessions, and in so many ways have shown an interest in us.

To these we owe, and render our heart-felt *gratitude*, and shall long remember those whose acquaintance we have formed under such pleasant circumstances, and whose hospitality we have received; and in taking leave of them here, we can truly say in the language of the beautiful hymn,

"When we asunder part,
It gives us inward pain,
But we shall yet be joined in heart,
And hope to meet again."

The Report was accepted, and unanimously adopted.

Your Committee would also recommend that all unfinished business of the Convention, be referred to the Executive Committee, together with the minutes of this and the farewell meeting.

Adopted.

Sheriff Thomas, of Ontario, in behalf of the Canadians present desired to express their very high sense of the courtesy and kindness shown to them. Though not annexed politically, we are annexed in heart; and although we may not desire to be conquered and annexed politically, yet we must admit we are already conquered in heart.

After singing the Doxology,

"Praise God from whom all blessings flow,"

the Benediction was pronounced by Dr. Carruthers, of Portland, and the Convention adjourned.

SABBATH—JULY 18TH.

All the hours of the Sabbath were appropriated to some public religious service.

At half past 6 o'clock, A. M. prayer meetings were held in the Second Baptist Church, Free Street; Congress Street Methodist Church, and Casco Street F. W. Baptist Church.

At nine o'clock a prayer meeting was held in the City Hall, conducted by A. Jameson, of Trenton, N. J. Singing led by Silas Farmer. The hall was well filled below and the exercises interesting.

All the churches, with but two exceptions, were occupied by ministers or delegates to the Convention from abroad.

Sunday School meetings were held also in most of the churches, for the second service, at different hours.

The meeting at 10 o'clock A. M., on Central Wharf, sustained every Sabbath by the Portland Y. M. C. Association, was addressed by clerical and lay delegates from abroad.

Of Open-Air Meetings, there were five, commencing at six o'clock, P. M.

1. Market Square—Conducted by R. S. Denig, of Columbus, Ohio.

2. Congress Street, opposite City Hall—Conducted by Rev. Geo. A. Hall, of Washington, D. C.

3. Grand Trunk Railroad Depot—Conducted by R. Weidensall, of Omaha, Nebraska.

4. West Promenade—Conducted by Major-General Clinton B. Fiske, of St. Louis, Mo.

5. East Promenade.—Conducted by Rev. J. H. Smyth, of Philadelphia, Pa.

The following list of other services, in which delegates took part, will serve to show how fully the Sabbath was occupied:

WEST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.—Sabbath School service at 11 o'clock, A. M. Addresses by Rev. J. H. Smyth, Philadelphia; H. E. Simmons, Boston; Prof. A. Duff, Montreal. Afternoon Service, at 3 P. M., preaching by Rev. E. Mix, Orange, N. Y., and Rev. Edward Annand, of Windsor, N. S.

PINE STREET CHURCH.—Service 10½ A. M. Preaching by Rev. W. J. Heath, Amsterdam, N. Y. Afternoon, 3 P. M., preaching by Rev. S. B. Barnitz, Wheeling, West Va.; Sunday School, at 1½ P. M., addressed by W. H. Fisher, Utica, N. Y., and H. A. Sherwin, Cleveland, Ohio.

BROWN HALL, CAPE ELIZABETH.—Preaching at 2½ P. M., by R. Weidensall, Omaha.

STATE STREET CHURCH.—Morning service 10½ A. M. A sermon to young men by Rev. J. McC. Holmes, Hudson, N. Y. Afternoon service 3 P. M. Public Sunday School meeting, at 2 o'clock, P. M., was addressed by Major-Gen. Fiske, of St. Louis, H. Thane Miller, Cincinnati, Ohio, W. E. Dodge, Jr., N. Y., and others.

ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH.—Services at 10½ A. M. Preaching by Rev. Dr. Grammer, of Baltimore, Md. Afternoon, by Rev. J. E. Walton; Sunday School at 4 P. M., addressed by Prof. Wilson, Toronto University, and others.

CENTRAL CHURCH.—Morning service 10½ A. M. Addresses by Matthew W. Hodder and W. E. Dodge, Jr., N. Y. Afternoon service 3 P. M. Addresses by Rev. J. B. Brandt, Indianapolis, Rev. J. E. Cheshire, Amsterdam, N. Y.

HIGH STREET CHURCH.—Service at 12 M.; addressed by L. P. Rowland, Jr., Boston, John Wanamaker, Philadelphia, and H. Thane Miller, Cincinnati, Ohio.

FREE STREET BAPTIST CHURCH.—Service at 10½ A. M. Preaching by Rev. C. Eddy, Newark, N. J. Sunday School service at 12 M., addressed by H. Thane Miller, Cincinnati, Ohio, L. P. Rowland, Jr., Boston, Major-Gen. Fiske, St. Louis, and W. H. Doane, Cincinnati, Ohio. Afternoon service at 3 o'clock, P. M. Preaching by Rev. Dr. Wylie, of Philadelphia.

CASCO STREET CHURCH.—Morning Service at 10½ o'clock. Preaching by Rev. Wm. M. Baum, D.D., York, Pa. Public Sunday School service at 3 P. M., ad-

dressed by Wm. E. Dodge, Jr., of New-York, Cephas Brainerd, New-York, Rev. G. M. Boynton, Guilford, Conn., and others.

CHESTNUT STREET M. E. CHURCH.—Morning service at 10½ A.M. Preaching to young men by Rev. L. R. Fiske, Detroit. Sunday School service 1½ P. M., addressed by Major-Gen. Fiske, St. Louis, M. H. Hodder, London, and H. Thane Miller, Cincinnati. Afternoon service, 3 P. M. Preaching by Rev. J. M. Buckley, Stamford, Conn.

PAYSON MEMORIAL CHURCH, corner of Congress and Pearl streets. Morning service at 10½ o'clock. Preaching by Rev. R. H. Williams, Frederick, Md. Afternoon, 3 P. M. Sunday School addressed by Prof. Wilson, Toronto; John Wanamaker, Philadelphia; M. H. Hodder, London; H. Thane Miller Cincinnati, Ohio.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.—Morning service, 10½ o'clock. Preaching to young men by Rev. J. E. Cheshire, N. Y. Afternoon service, Sunday School at 3 P. M.; addressed by Major-General Fiske, St. Louis, H. Thane Miller, Cincinnati, Ohio, Rev. J. G. Butler, D. D., Washington, and N. P. Kemp, Boston.

ALLEN MISSION CHAPEL, corner Locust and Cumberland streets. Public Sunday School 10½ A. M. Addresses by Robert Weidensall, Omaha, Silas Farmer, Detroit, and H. L. Chamberlain, San Francisco. Prayer meeting at 9½ A. M.

ST. LAWRENCE STREET CHURCH.—Public Sunday School services at 10½. Addresses by H. Thane Miller, Cincinnati, Ohio, E. L. Taylor, Columbus, Ohio, and Lang Sheaf, Cincinnati, Ohio. Preaching at 3 P. M., by Rev. George A. Hall, of Washington, D. C.

CONGRESS STREET M. E. CHURCH.—Sunday School meeting at 10½ A. M. Addresses by General C. B. Fiske, and others. Preaching at 3 P. M., by Rev. Wm. M. Martin, of Brooklyn, N. Y. Morning prayer-meeting at 6½ o'clock.

BETHEL CHURCH.—Morning services at 10½ o'clock. Addresses by Rev. J. B. Bennett, Rev. E. S. Atwood, Salem, Mass. Sunday School addressed by George E. Berteaux, St. Johns, N. B.

MISSION CHAPEL, DEERING'S BRIDGE.—Sunday School at 1½ P. M. Addressed by C. C. Collins, Newark, N. J., D. W. Glass, Baltimore, and others.

WOODFORD'S CORNER.—10½ A. M., Rev. Neil McKay, of St. John, and Rev. Wm. M. Leavitt, of Minneapolis, Minn.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH.—Rev. J. E. Walton, of Rockford, Ill., officiated in the Reception Room, City Hall.

ALLEN CORNER MISSION SCHOOL.—Public Sunday School service at 3 P. M. Addresses by C. H. Spooner, and W. E. Thompson, Bristol, Silas Farmer, Detroit, H. A. Sherwin, Cleveland, Ohio, and Lang Sheaf, Cincinnati, Ohio.

MOUNTFORD STREET A. M. E. CHURCH.—Morning service at 10½ o'clock. Afternoon service at 4½ P. M., Sunday School. Delegates were invited to address them.

FAREWELL SERVICES.—SABBATH EVENING, July 18.

The Convention assembled in the City Hall at half-past seven o'clock, which, at that hour, was almost filled in every part, by an audience of nearly 3,000 persons.

The President, Wm. E. Dodge, Jr., in the chair.

The opening hymn was that familiar one,

"All hail the power of Jesus' name."

Rev. Dr. Carruthers, of Portland, read a portion of Scripture.

Rev. B. M. Frink, of Portland, led in prayer.

The President, in well-chosen words, stated the purpose of the meeting, which was to say Farewell.

The first address of the evening was made by Rev. J. M. Buckley, of Stamford, Conn. He considered the question, What is to be the sequel of this Convention? Are we to go forth to do more for Christ? And what will be one of our greatest obstacles? Surely, an exclusive aristocracy. But what a mistake do such exclusives make! What was our Captain? A friend of the lowly. He spoke of the necessity of being careful that we avoid a spirit of luxurious idleness. Beware of spasmodic activity. Beware of moral inconsistency in conversation. He spoke of what would be the cure of these evils. Looking unto Jesus was the panacea for all these ills.

Russell Sturgis, Jr., of Boston, next spoke to the topic, which, he said, was the keynote of this meeting, Union. He illustrated, by the relation of an incident, relating to his army life, how those who were arrayed against each other, even in the ranks of war, were found to be one in Christ.

President Fairfield, of Hillsdale College, Michigan, was the next speaker. He spoke to the point that the Christian's work is for all time, while that of the man of the world perishes with him from off the face of the earth. No abstract can do justice to this speech.

The Convention next listened to J. S. Maclean, President of the Young Men's Christian Association at Halifax, Nova Scotia. His subject was, "The manliness of Christian piety." He spoke of the kindness with which the representatives of the Provinces had been received here in the families of this city, and by the delegates of the Associations in the United States.

The Rev. Dr. Grammer, Rector of St. Peter's Church, in Balti-

more, followed. His motto for the Associations, "Unity in the essentials—Liberty in the non-essentials," was certainly a very good one, and worthy the adoption of all Christians.

Mr. John B. Warren, of Charleston, S. C., was the speaker who followed Dr. Grammer. It was a great pleasure, as the President remarked, to hear from this representative of the Southern Associations. It was also equally interesting, that while the representative for the Boston Association, Mr. Sturgis, spoke to the topic, "Union," the representative from Charleston spoke to the sentiment, the strength of Union.

The President here very opportunely asked the Convention to rise and sing "America," which was done with much earnestness.

A message by telegraph, from the Y. M. C. A. of San Francisco, was next read. It was one of fraternal greetings, and stated that daily prayer meetings were now held in the Associations of that city.

Rev. Asa Dalton, of the St. Stephen's Episcopal Church of Portland, was the next speaker. His remarks were expressive of most cordial union, and of the thanks of the people of the city for the good that has been done by the meetings of the Convention.

Rev. A. K. P. Small, of the Free Street Baptist Church of this city, also spoke very warmly in parting words to our guests. He felt thankful, sorrowful as was this parting, that this Convention was to go forth to all parts of this continent, and labor for the cause of Christ. His remarks were indeed eloquent as he referred to the hopeful future of the Associations.

Mr. A. J. Chase, of the Portland Association, was here called out, and as its President, spoke the appropriate words of farewell for the organization which had extended the invitation to the Convention to assemble here the present year. Mr. Chase's address is as follows :

Mr. President and Delegates of the International Convention of Young Men's Christian Associations :

When in June, 1888, our Association extended, by a unanimous vote, the invitation for you to meet with us this year, so numerous and strong were the claims of other cities and Associations, that we hardly dared to hope for so glorious a result. When the telegraph announced that by an almost unanimous vote our invitation had been accepted, our hearts were filled with gladness, and

we have been looking forward from that time until the day when you had assembled in our midst, with gratitude to God that we were to be the recipients of your favors.

As your delegations were announced from city and town from a large part of our country and the Dominion of Canada, we implored the Divine protection upon you, as you left those who were near and dear to you, to come together in earnest and solemn conference.

We met you with the warmest welcome which the heart knew, as we clasped your hands for the first time as brothers in Christ. The bonds of our Association have made you so very dear to us that words cannot express our feelings of regard. The love, the earnestness, and the devotion which you have exhibited for Jesus and the salvation of souls, have left an impress upon our hearts and minds, which we trust will never be effaced. In the days of your meeting which have passed so swiftly and so delightfully, as a beautiful morning's dream, you have gained a deep and lasting place in the hearts of all the people. For this we most earnestly prayed, and now devoutly thank our Heavenly Father that He has given to you and to us to be used for the promotion of the Kingdom of Christ, such power for good among our fellow men. But, dear brethren, our meetings for business, so pleasing to all, and fraught with so great consequences, our solemn and impressive seasons of prayer and praise, have all passed, and we are soon to take each other by the hand to say farewell. How inadequate are any words which I can use to express the feelings and emotions of the members of our Association at this parting. Our souls have been so firmly knit together with yours in these seasons of holy convocation, that even the thought of our separation fills us with the deepest sadness. But it is not for us to remain together here; that union where there will be no parting lies beyond. You are to return, with God's blessing, to your homes and fields of labor to work for Jesus, and in this we bid you God-speed, trusting that at some future day many of us, at least, may share each other's joys in scenes like those through which we have just passed.

You take with you the deep gratitude of our entire Association, and of all true followers of Christ in our midst. They will remember you and your deeds and words of love so long as life shall last, and will ever pray that God's blessing may follow you in all your works. And as you go, may Jesus meet you in the way. Good bye, then, "ye workers in the ranks of Jesus." Good bye.

H. Thane Miller led the Convention in singing the hymn, "Waiting by the River," the audience joining in the chorus.

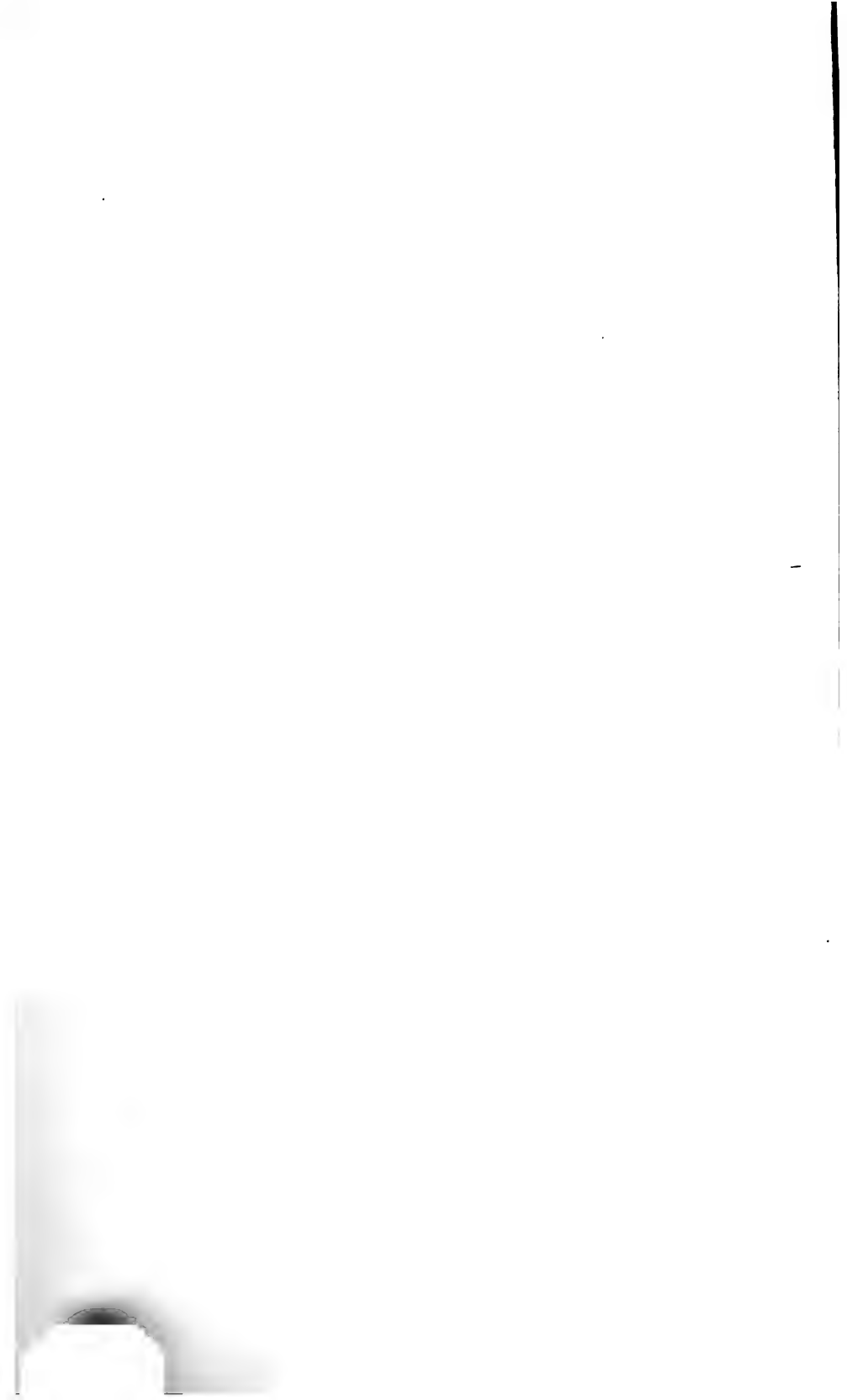
The next speaker was Rev. W. Morley Punshon, of London, England. He spoke directly and most eloquently to the young men. Young men should be well furnished; should be sure of the views they hold, and of the best way to use them for doing good. He quoted from Scripture very appropriately to show the authority that there is for demanding knowledge as an element in a successful life career.

H. Thane Miller, of Cincinnati, was next introduced.

After singing, by request, a few verses of the "Old, Old Story," Mr. Miller spoke most feelingly to the young men of Portland.

The President, W. E. Dodge, Jr., of New-York, then uttered his own words of farewell. He hoped that if any word or ruling of his had given any brother offense, it would be forgiven. Let us go home with gentle words and loving deeds. To-day a good old man in this city had said to him, "You are going back to the City of New-York; I have a son there; won't you seek him out and bring him under good influences?" Everywhere that we shall go there will be somebody's son, and we may do him good if we will.

With clasped hands the Convention sang "Say, Brothers, will you meet us?" The Benediction was pronounced by Rev. J. J. Caruthers, D.D., of this city, and on motion of J. L. Platt, of Poughkeepsie, the Convention adjourned, to meet next year in Indianapolis, Ind., and at 10 o'clock, in joyous praises to God, in heartfelt gratitude and in sadness at parting, the delegates to the Convention separated to renew their conflicts with sin, and labors for God. It was a blessed hour; blessed in all the associations of the past, in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, in the happy friendships formed or continued, and thrice blessed in the moral strength imparted to all by the presence and power of Jesus.



Resolutions and Recommendations

OF THE

CONVENTIONS OF 1864, 1865, 1866, 1867 AND 1868,

ON VARIOUS SUBJECTS.

[Reprinted by order of the Convention of 1869.]

BOSTON, 1864.

Resolved, That this Convention recommends to the various Associations the necessity as well as the propriety of a more extended labor in behalf of the Temperance cause, in order that the great evil of intemperance may be checked as far as possible, and ultimately removed, and that the Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces be requested to make use of such agencies as may seem proper for the accomplishment of this great end.

Whereas, Dancing, card-playing, theatre-going, and intemperance in various forms, are, to a fearful extent, becoming the besetting sins of professing Christians in this country; and whereas, all who do these things are thus vainly striving to do what our Saviour has explicitly declared to be impossible when he said, "Ye cannot serve God and mammon;" and whereas, to all such that Scripture which saith "Woe unto those who are at ease in Zion," is applicable; therefore be it

Resolved, That it is the duty of all Young Men's Christian Associations, and of every member of each of said Associations, to oppose these sins by all the means in their power; and especially to oppose them by their example in abstaining from them.

PHILADELPHIA, 1865.

Whereas, In view of the urgent necessity of reaching young men and others of the poorer classes, and bringing around them the restraints of Christian influences; and whereas, tenement house and cottage prayer-meetings, by which the Gospel is carried to them in their own homes, is the most effectual means of accomplishing this purpose; therefore,

Resolved, That this Convention recommend to the especial attention of its members the above subjects.

Also recommending:

1. Persevering and universal Tract distribution.
2. That with this Tract distribution be united inquiry as to the denominational preferences of those who neglect the Church, in order that they may be introduced to the notice of pastors and churches of such denominations.
3. That out-door meetings and street preaching be employed as far as possible.

In the employment of these means, systematic Christian visitation is indispensable, together with such other means as may seem especially adapted to the peculiar circumstances of each community.

Resolved, That in making arrangements for the next annual Convention, the Executive Committee, in preparing its business, arrange for not less than three successive days and evenings to be devoted to the business of the Convention, thus leaving the Convention the privilege of accepting or rejecting any invitations that may be presented to them.

ALBANY, 1866.

Resolved, That the Convention instruct the Corresponding Member of the Executive Committee of each State, District, Territory, and Province, to call a Convention of the Associations in such State, &c. (after consultation with the Associations), annually in the autumn.

Resolved, That the Corresponding Members of the Executive Committee be instructed to use every means in their power for the organization of Associations in their respective Districts.

Resolved, That this Convention recommend to the Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces, to set apart the first* Sunday in November as a day of prayer for the increase and spiritual prosperity of the Young Men's Christian Associations throughout the world.

Resolved, That we invite all kindred Associations in every land to unite with us on that day in praying for this object.

Resolved, That we most earnestly request the clergy generally to address their congregations on that day on the object and work of Young Men's Christian Associations.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be, and they are hereby, requested to issue a circular before the 15th day of September next, calling the attention of the Young Men's Christian Associations of the world to the action of this Convention.

Whereas, A better system of correspondence and co-operation between Associations is desirable: therefore

* Subsequent Conventions have fixed upon the second Sabbath in November, annually, as the Day of Prayer.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be instructed to prepare a list of Associations, with the address of some member in each, to whom communications can be sent. A copy of said list to be sent to each Association.

Resolved, That in all cases where young men remove from the jurisdiction of one Association to that of another, we recommend the sending of a letter of introduction.

Resolved, That we further recommend the sending of a brief report each quarter, from each Association, to the Executive Committee, in order that a review of the work throughout the land may be given in the Journal to be published.

Whereas, Large numbers of young men congregate in towns and cities, away from home influences and parental restraints, and where multitudes of them are led into evil courses, from being crowded in boarding-houses, destitute of all moral and Christian influences; therefore be it

Resolved, That we hereby recommend that a carefully prepared list of houses, pervaded by a kindly Christian influence, be kept at the rooms of each Association on this continent; and

Resolved, That the members of these Associations be recommended to render every assistance in their power to young men who may be thrown as strangers in their midst, and seeking homes.

Whereas, The time has arrived when circumstances make it our duty, as a Convention of Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces, to express our judgment upon the relations of amusements to Christianity, as embodied in this organization; therefore be it

Resolved, That we bear our energetic testimony against dancing, card and billiard playing, as so distinctively worldly in their associations, and unspiritual in their influence, as to be utterly inconsistent with our professions as the disciples of Christ.

Resolved, That in view of the fact that in addition to the purely spiritual needs of young men, their natures crave some form of amusing recreation, we earnestly advise the adoption of any kind of amusement which may be harmless in itself, and not made injurious by worldly associations, and which shall impart a home atmosphere to our rooms.

Resolved, That while we thus recognize a need of our common nature, and advise our local societies to provide for it, we must earnestly insist upon the duty of making this subordinate to our high spiritual work, as a means to the attainment of the great aim of the salvation of the soul and its preparation for practical usefulness for Christ.

Resolved, That we heartily concur in the following declarations adopted in the World's Conference of Young Men's Christian Associations held at Elberfeld, August, 1865:

1. That it is one of the chief duties of Young Men's Christian Associations to

awaken, preserve, and advance the communion of Christian life amongst young men.

2. That this communion of Christian life can only be truly healthy and blessed when it comes from the true communion of the heart with God.

3. That the Associations have, before all things, to strive that this communion with God be awakened amongst young men by faithful use of the means of grace, and diligent study of God's Word.

4. That this Conference can only regard those Associations as having the true principles of Association before them, which cherish this communion of Christian life, resulting from the hidden communion of the heart with God.

MONTREAL, 1867.

Resolved, That this Convention, in the name of the Associations they represent, honor the cause of temperance, and recognize, with affectionate interest, the earnest men who are engaged in it. And while the proper work of Young Men's Christian Associations is sufficient reason to excuse their entering actively, as Associations, into the temperance cause, the Convention gladly and earnestly desire that every member should individually use his best talent and influence in that cause everywhere.

Resolved, That the delegates of all Associations be especially requested to aid in the formation of colored Associations throughout the South.

We earnestly recommend the holding of State and Local Conventions, for the discussion of practical topics, intimately connected with our work; and that the Corresponding Members of the Executive Committee, of each State and Province, be requested to correspond, at an early date, with the Associations in their field upon this subject.

That we coincide with the opinion of the Executive Committee, contained in suggestion No. 7, upon the desirableness of making the Corresponding Secretary of each Association a permanent officer, instead of making an annual change in this office, believing that such action would conduce to greater efficiency in this important department.

Whereas, The younger Associations have sought the counsel of the Convention with reference to the methods and instrumentalities to be employed in their work, especially as to the use of games of amusement in their rooms; and

Whereas, We consider this a subject of vital importance to the whole work of Christian Associations throughout the land and the world; therefore, be it

Resolved, That this Convention regards the introduction of games into the rooms of Young Men's Christian Associations, for the entertainment or amusement of young men, as fraught with evil, dangerous to the best interests of Associations, compromising to Christian integrity, and dishonoring to our blessed Master and Teacher, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be instructed to prepare, for the use of their corresponding members, a document containing information relative to the formation of Young Men's Christian Associations, and containing suggestions upon the best methods of prosecuting their labors.

Resolved, That Associations of one hundred members, or less, be represented in the Annual Conventions by three delegates, and that for every additional hundred members, or fraction of a hundred exceeding fifty, one additional delegate be allowed; but that no delegation shall be composed of more than fifteen members. Representation to be based on male membership only.

Resolved, That in the daily prayer meetings which have been established throughout the land, this Convention recognizes a means whereby Christian union may be encouraged and strengthened, and also where the gifts and graces of our young men may be called out and made greatly serviceable to both saints and sinners.

Resolved, That we recommend to all associated with us in the extension of the Gospel of Christ that such meetings, wherever established, receive all the aid in our power to render, and that where they do not exist in any town or city an effort be made at once to originate them.

Resolved, That hereafter the delegates to the Annual Convention of Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces be selected from the list of active members only of the various Associations to be represented.

Resolved, That this Convention recommend that all Associations make it a special duty to urge clergymen, and other friends of young men, who are about to locate in other cities, to furnish them with letters to the Christian Associations in those cities, so that they may find themselves at once among Christian friends and under good influences.

DETROIT, 1868.

Resolved, That steadfastness in our Associations can only be attained through steadfastness in practical piety of individual members. It is the duty, therefore,

of every converted member to see that he "grows in grace and in the knowledge of the truth," by living in daily and hourly communion with the precious Saviour, and by carrying the Divine Spirit of that communion with him into all the business of life. And, as the Divine injunction is, "Let him that heareth, say come," not a day should pass without asking some unconverted one to come to Jesus. Thus can we best render practical our piety, keep it steadfast, and carry in the Master's name salvation to the unconverted. And to this work let every member pledge himself, God being his helper.

Resolved, That it is the duty of our members to make special personal efforts for the salvation of stranger young men, to greet them as brothers beloved in the Lord, whose souls are precious in the Master's sight, and to give them the cordial grasp of the Christian hand, warm with the love of the Christian heart; and that in the performance of this duty, pride must be deposed, false dignity be dethroned, and diffidence overcome. Imitating the example of our blessed Saviour, may it be our delight to go about doing good; and, making it our meat and drink to do our Father's will, however and wherever manifested, we shall finally, with those whom God has given us, rest from labor and enjoy its fruit!

Resolved, That, as these organizations bear the name of Christian, and profess to be engaged directly in the Saviour's service, so it is clearly their duty to maintain the control and management of all their affairs, in the hands of those who profess to love and publicly avow their faith in Jesus, the Redeemer, as Divine, and who testify their faith by becoming and remaining members of churches held to be Evangelical, and that such persons, and none others, should be allowed to vote or hold office.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee and the Corresponding Members are hereby instructed to employ all proper means to secure the adoption of this test of active membership by all the Associations, and especially to secure its incorporation in the most permanent form in the Constitutions of all Associations that may hereafter be formed.

Resolved, That this Convention heartily approves of lay preaching, not because it considers laymen better preachers than the clergymen, but because the preaching of the Gospel to the whole world is too large a work for the ministry alone to do, and too important a work to be left undone; that we recommend that our Associations undertake the work of lay preaching; that each Association select and appoint, for this work, so many of its members as it deems necessary and competent; that the qualifications of those who engage in the work should be earnest piety, an unstained character, good sense and aptness to teach, and that the services should be short, varied in their character, and in all cases where possible, the preacher should be aided by an efficient corps of singers, and of brethren ready to either pray or exhort.

Resolved, That the Corresponding Members of the Executive Committee be,

and they hereby are instructed to call State or District Conventions of the Associations on their own fields during the year, either in their own names, as the representatives of this Convention, or in connection with the local Executive Committees, in all cases when the same is practicable.

Resolved, That the Corresponding Members of the Executive Committee be, and they are hereby instructed to make, at least, quarterly reports of all Association matters on their own fields, to the Executive Committee; and that the same be made at least four weeks before the days fixed for the regular issue of the *Quarterly*.

Resolved, That the second Sabbath in November next be especially set apart as a Day of Prayer for the blessing of Almighty God to rest upon our work, and that the Associations throughout the world seek to obtain the co-operation of all the clergymen in the observance of the day.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be instructed to issue a circular containing a copy of this resolution to the Young Men's Christian Associations throughout the world; and that the Associations be requested to report the results as soon as practicable to the Committee.

Resolved, That all Associations throughout the land be earnestly recommended to organize and maintain Association prayer-meetings, and that, wherever practicable, they be held daily.

Resolved, That the Convention honors the Christian Press of America, and recommends that the Associations avail themselves of this instrumentality more than ever before, at the same time imploring them to do all in their power to enlist for our work a warmer sympathy, and a more earnest co-operation and support.

2. That we depend on Christians everywhere to give us the means to scatter good tracts and books abundantly.

3. That the various tract and religious publication societies deserve our thanks for the pains they have taken to give us inexpensive, pointed and attractive little books, well adapted as means for saving souls.

Whereas, The Churches are calling largely for men to go forth to the work of the ministry; and,

Whereas, Our Associations may awaken an interest in the same; therefore,

Resolved, That we earnestly recommend all the Christian Associations of our country to use such measures as they deem best to bring this great and glorious work to the attention of pious young men.

Resolved, That this Convention instruct the Executive Committee to employ an agent to aid in the organization of Young Men's Christian Associations on the line of the Pacific Railroad, and in such other sections as may be determined

upon after mature deliberation ; and your Committee would suggest that the funds necessary for the carrying forward of this work be raised by the Executive Committee, they to send circulars to the Corresponding Members, who shall solicit contributions from *individuals* interested in our work ; failing in this, to send these circulars to the various Associations, who will not fail to respond with the amount necessary.

Whereas, While we are painfully conscious of facts and statistics on the subject of intemperance, which are of the most startling and alarming character ; and

Whereas, The specific work of Young Men's Christian Associations, is of so absorbing a character as to demand all our energies in its direct prosecution, so that we cannot wisely and safely recommend that our Associations, any more than our Christian Churches, should become temperance organizations ; yet,

Resolved, That we do seriously advise that every member in our Association should consider it his duty to be heartily engaged in rigid opposition to intemperance, the great enemy of the Church of Christ, and that not only we, but every Church member on the continent, should be alive to the work ; and further,

That we, in the name of the Association, would also most heartily recommend that all who love the Lord Jesus should put forth earnest and persistent efforts to establish and maintain temperance organizations in places where none exist, and especially that our entire force of workers, as individuals, should organize immediately and help sustain juvenile temperance societies, with a view to prevent, effectually, the evil practice of intemperance and its attendant and damning vices upon the rising generation.

Resolved, That in theory and practice the Young Men's Christian Association recognizes the essential unity of the Church of Christ, and is bound to extend the hand of fellowship, love, and sympathy to all who, in accordance with the Gospel, honor the Head, and who love the Lord Jesus, whatever their ecclesiastical name, or the peculiarities of their denominational polity. The shibboleths of sects, the rules of church order and discipline, the minor differences in creeds, must, therefore, in the nature of the case, be ignored by us, unless, by our unwise interference, we are willing to risk the destruction and dissolution of the fair fabric which has cost so much of faith, and prayer, and labor to rear.

Resolved, That, while as individuals we may most properly allow our hearts to go out in sympathy towards our fellow-members—brethren beloved in the Lord—who have been made the subjects of discipline by the communions to which they respectively belong, it is not in the province of wisdom, nor do these, our brethren, desire that any formal notice or action be taken by this Convention, or the Associations as such, of the unhappy circumstances referred to. To take such action would be to assume a censorship which the Master has not appointed us to exercise, and, in exercising which, we peril the further usefulness and even existence of the institution we so dearly cherish.

Resolved, That it is neither the province nor the duty of this Convention to decide upon the question of the propriety of admitting ladies to membership in

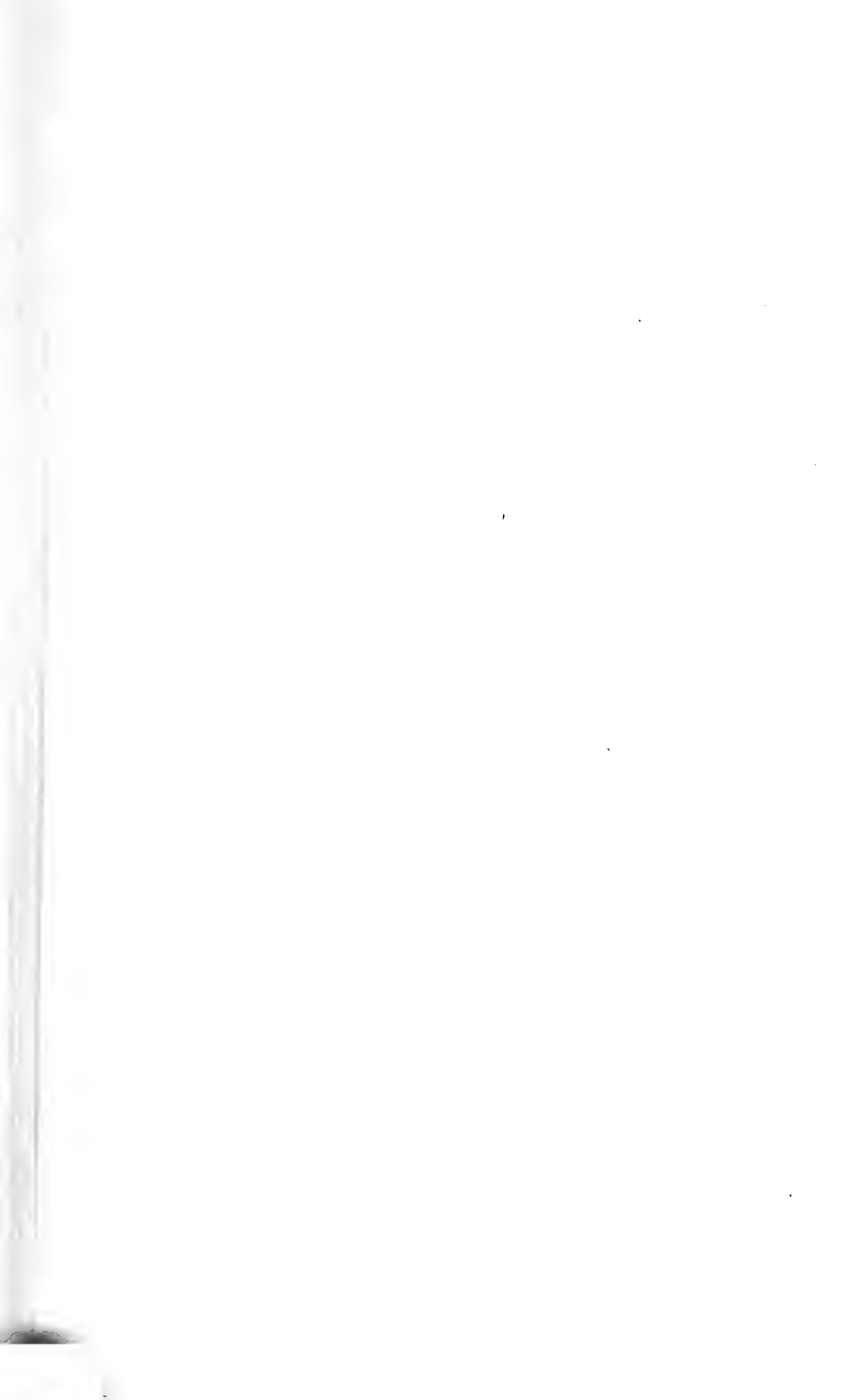
Young Men's Christian Associations, but that each Association must decide that matter for itself, upon a consideration of all the circumstances by which it is surrounded.

Resolved, That this Convention adheres to the rule prescribing the rate of representation as fixed by the Montreal Convention, the same being computed upon an enumeration of all active members.

Resolved, That in estimating the basis of representation, only those shall be counted who have paid their dues as members of the Associations; and that in the enumeration made up for the Reports to the Convention, only such members shall be included.

Resolved, That we recommend that R. R. McBurney, of New-York, Rev. William M. Martin, of Brooklyn, and John I. Platt, of Poughkeepsie, be constituted a Committee to devise a plan for a Young Men's Christian Association Lecture Bureau, and to carry it into execution at once.

Resolved, That a Special Committee of three be appointed by the President at the opening session, to which all resolutions, memorials, and propositions shall be handed on or before the second day of the session of the Convention, each paper to contain the name of the proposer, and the name of the Association he represents. These documents to be at once referred without reading.



SUMMARY OF IMPORTANT RESOLUTIONS,
ADOPTED BY THE
PORTLAND CONVENTION, 1869.

Resolved, That, as these organizations bear the name of Christian, and profess to be engaged directly in the Saviour's service, so it is clearly their duty to maintain the control and management of all their affairs in the hands of those who profess to love and publicly avow their faith in Jesus, the Redeemer, as Divine, and who testify their faith by becoming and remaining members of churches held to be Evangelical. And we hold those churches to be Evangelical which, maintaining the Holy Scriptures to be the only infallible rule of faith and practice, do believe in the Lord Jesus Christ (the only begotten of the Father, King of Kings, and Lord of Lords, in whom dwelleth the fullness of the God-head bodily, and who was made sin for us, though knowing no sin, bearing our sins in His own body on the tree,) as the only name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved from everlasting punishment.

Resolved, That we consider it the bounden duty of the members of all Young Men's Christian Associations calling themselves Christians, to hold their duties and obligations, to their respective churches, and to the services of the same, as having a prior claim upon their sympathy and efforts.

Resolved, That in the prosecution of the work for the Saviour among young men which they have assumed, they should heartily and zealously co-operate with the divinely appointed ministry, and with all Evangelical bodies of Christians.

Resolved, That this Convention recommend that the evening of the day of organization of future conference be devoted to a social gathering of the delegation, and that the Association entertaining the Convention be requested to arrange for the same.

Resolved, That having evidence of great success attending the open-air meetings inaugurated by our Associations, the Convention recommend to all Associations the formation of committees to conduct such exercises whenever it is deemed practicable.

Resolved, That we are gratified to know that the Executive Committee have during the past year encouraged in every way possible the formation of Associations in the South, which action we hereby heartily endorse, and assure such Associations of our abiding interest in their success.

Resolved, First, That this Convention adopts the enunciations contained in the report of the Executive Committee in reference to State and District Conventions, and directs the Executive Committee and Corresponding Members, in all cases where the same is possible, to call such Conventions after conference with local committees and prominent Christian men. Second, That at such Conventions the number of delegates from Associations should be unlimited, and churches located in towns where Associations are not established, should be invited to send delegates to sit as Corresponding Members.

Resolved, That in the greatly increased immigration from all parts of the world to the United States, we recognize the hand of God, and rejoice at the enlarged opportunity of sowing seed beside all waters, and that it is the duty of our young men to watch, labor and pray that God may enable them to reach all classes of foreigners arriving upon our shores, and especially the Chinese and other Asiatic races.

Resolved, That the character of the literature supplied to passengers on railways and steamboats is calculated to lower rather than to elevate the standard of Christian morals, and the Associations represented in this Convention will be well employed in using earnest efforts to obtain some improvements in this direction.

Resolved, That this Convention recommend that the right and wrong of the intricate question involved in the use of tobacco and other narcotics be left for each individual to decide between himself and his Saviour, after much prayer.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee of the Young Men's Christian Associations be authorized to print and bind at the end of their report of the proceedings of this Convention, a list of the deliverances of the several Conventions, since and including the Boston Convention, for the purpose of acquainting the members with the resolutions adopted on several important questions, and thus to save much valuable time in future Conventions.

Resolved, That the Associations organized after this date shall be entitled to representation in future Conference of the Associated Y. M. C. Associations of North America, upon conditions that they be severally composed of young men in communion with Evangelical churches (provided that in places where Associations are formed by a single denomination, members of other denominations are not excluded therefrom) and active membership, and the right to hold office be conferred only upon young men who are members in good standing in Evangelical churches.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be authorized to make such arrangements as they may deem best as to publishing the periodical, or in any other way securing a publication of the news from the Associations. In view of the difficulty experienced by the Executive Committee in obtaining reports of the work of Associations in the various States and Provinces represented in Convention, therefore

Resolved, That every Corresponding Member be required to report to the Executive Committee four times each year, viz., February, May, August, and November.

Resolved, That the wonderful progress of the institution in whose interest we are assembled, has reached, under God's blessing, such proportions, and gives so great promise as to future growth and usefulness, that in the judgment of this Convention, the time has come when the Executive Committee should be instructed and empowered to make such sub-division of its prerogatives and responsibilities as shall secure the more thorough and detailed systematizing of the work among the States and Provinces represented in this body; and this Convention does hereby request and authorize such action by the Executive Committee as shall fully organize the institution as a religious power on this continent.



REPORT

OF THE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF THE

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS

OF THE

UNITED STATES AND BRITISH PROVINCES,

PRESENTED TO THE PORTLAND CONVENTION, JULY 15, 1869.

(WITH ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS.)



NEW-YORK:

PUBLISHED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

CONTENTS.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

PACIFIC RAILROAD MISSION REPORT.

REPORTS OF CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

REPORT ON EUROPEAN ASSOCIATIONS.

REPORT ON BRITISH ASSOCIATIONS.

REPORT ON FRENCH CHRISTIAN UNIONS.

REPORT ON THE UNIONS OF BELGIUM.

REPORT ON THE UNIONS OF HOLLAND.

REPORT.

To the Fourteenth Annual Convention of Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces :

The Executive Committee respectfully submits the following as its report, which, when accepted, and your Committee discharged, will terminate a three years' service, commenced under an appointment made by the Albany Convention, in June, 1866.

During the past year, the working organization of the Committee has continued substantially the same as at the date of the last report, and its work has been prosecuted by the modes which had then been adopted.

Aware of the pressure of business upon the Convention, and of the variety of interests and opinions demanding consideration or notice, the Committee will, with the utmost brevity, present such matters, and those only, as appear of the most importance.

I. The appointment of the Executive Committee, its organization, location and powers, claim and should receive the early attention of the Convention, and of the proper Committee, as a matter of prime importance. No one should be placed upon it who is not able to perform promptly the work which the post demands. This work has become a serious tax upon those who act on the Committee; its performance calls for much time, much actual labor, much anxious thought; it is burdened with a weighty responsibility. Too much care cannot be exercised in this matter. If the charge committed to these Associations is wisely met, a year hence there will not be less than one thousand on this continent; many more than that even, if those once existing in such strength in the Southern States should be reorganized, as doubtless not a few will be.

II. The Corresponding Members of the Executive Committee are to be appointed. At Detroit this was neglected, and the duty of making such appointments cast upon the Executive Committee. The result was a long delay in the general work—six weeks at least—some unsuitable appointments, some dissatisfaction, and much neglect throughout the year. Appointments thus made may naturally enough be regarded as designations by a merely local authority, and hence will not always be received with cordiality. Christian men are not always free from jealousy, and Christian Associations, even, may sometimes indulge, and possibly, in rare cases, cherish a spirit akin to jealousy, quite inconsistent with an harmonious prosecution of the great work of teaching Christ to the young

men of America, in which it has been given to these societies to bear such a conspicuous part. Hence the Convention cannot be over-careful to avoid in this, as well as in all other particulars, whatever may have the least tendency to produce coldness between these organizations.

It is matter for sadness that so many of the persons appointed Corresponding Members of the Committee, under the authority given at Detroit, appear wholly to have neglected their duties; at least no evidence has been forwarded to the central office of any service rendered in the prosecution of this continental work—in the performance of which the Associations, while bound together by no formal or elaborate organization, should be actuated by one spirit, move in concert, and join hands and hearts in the fullest sense. To this end the simple agencies established by the annual Conventions should each fulfil its appropriate part; failure in any of them assures corresponding failure in the general service. In an especial manner does it rest with the Corresponding Members to cultivate and develop that unity of spirit, that *esprit du corps*, which is essential to our largest usefulness. The Committee deem it a duty to urge upon the Convention an exercise of the utmost prudence in the selection of these agents—at least those should be selected who will resign their places promptly when it is apparent that they cannot perform their duties.

Let it not be understood that all the Corresponding Members are liable to the observations now made; some have, with great faithfulness and wisdom, prosecuted their work. Their reports herewith submitted as forming a part of this Report, will to a considerable extent show what has been done by some of our associates, while in regard to others nothing but their own oral statements, or a perusal of their correspondence with the Committee detailing their efforts and their failures, (not from any lack on their part, however,) will show how much they have most laboriously and conscientiously performed. Present results do not indicate it; there may never be a record made up on earth in which it will be presented; even we cannot here with propriety give the names of those who well deserve praise from this Convention. There are those, however, who fail even to reply to the circular which conveys to them the information of their appointment, and neglect to communicate to the Resident Committee any account of the condition of the societies in their own field.

III. It is believed that State or Local Conventions were first suggested in a formal way in the report of the Executive Committee, submitted at Boston in 1863. The report presented at Albany, two years later, emphasized this suggestion; and there, by formal resolution, it was made the duty of the Corresponding Members to convene them. During the year which followed five were held, including the North-Western Con-

vention, to which delegates were sent from several States. The next year ten of these Conventions were held, including, as before, the North-Western, held at Chicago. This year fifteen have been held, namely, Nova Scotia, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New-York, New Jersey, Ohio, Michigan, Iowa, Canada, California, and the North-Western. In but two sections where the Conventions have once been held, have they failed to repeat them, namely, Maryland and the District of Columbia united, where two have been held, and Pennsylvania, where one was held three years ago. Considerations of a nature quite distinct from those which determine the importance or necessity of these Conventions, prevailed to defeat a recurrence of them.

The Conventions held during the past year were, in every instance, productive of great good, not merely to the Association cause as separate from others, but also in respect of all kindred efforts. The proceedings of the most of these gatherings were published in pamphlet form, and liberally distributed. (The report of the Convention on the Pacific coast, which was held the 13th and 14th of May, has just been received.) In all cases the local papers allotted large portions of their space to reports of these meetings, and thus ample opportunities for usefulness, in the circulation of information, were placed at the disposal of our brethren; it is not thought that they failed in any considerable degree to make the most of them.

The Committee consider these Conventions of very great importance, and if wisely conducted they accomplish results quite beyond the reach of the general Convention. In the local gathering, every Association can be represented and the discussions can be made more familiar and practical, and adapted to meet the wants of the smaller field. The younger Associations can far better learn in them those things essential to their success and permanence. It is not difficult to organize new Associations under ordinary circumstances, but it is difficult to carry them over the second year, mainly because there is usually so small a number of members who really understand our work. No means are available for their instruction so simple and cheap as this, and in most cases, when this is not furnished, no substitute is provided. It is not always convenient for them to send delegates to the General Convention, and under the most favorable circumstances the representation is limited, and those who attend fail to obtain the detailed information they desire. The number of delegates from each Association to a State Convention should be unlimited, and the Institute character can easily be given to its meetings. So far as this Convention has any power it should be imposed upon the Corresponding Members of the Executive Committee, as a solemn duty, to call these Conventions in every State or Province where

there are three Associations; and delegates, to sit as Corresponding Members, should be invited to them from churches in every town where Associations do not exist.

IV. The following matters, among others, were referred to the Executive Committee by the Detroit Convention :

1. The appointment of Corresponding Members. This was done; a list of these appointments is appended to this Report. Great difficulty was experienced in finding representatives for many of the States, and the most unfortunate delays occurred. The Convention cannot again, without repeating an injury to the cause, leave this duty to the Committee.

2. The preparation and publication of a Certificate of Life Membership. None has been issued. The Committee found that the attempt would either involve a loss to the members of the Committee, or to the Convention, and they therefore deemed it best to defer the undertaking until by a larger comparison of views in the Convention and the Associations such an agreement could be secured as would guarantee satisfaction on all hands, and security against loss.

3. The publication of the Proceedings of the Detroit Convention.

The cost of publication was.....	\$636 46
The Committee received from sales.....	444 97

4. The publication of the QUARTERLY. Eighteen hundred copies of each number have been printed.

Received from Subscriptions.....	\$693 48
" " Advertisements.....	175 00
Cost of Publication.....	975 60
Now due from Subscriptions and Advertisements, including August number.....	375 00

The August number is now mostly in type, but will be delayed for the purpose of including in it some report of this Convention.

This attempt by the Convention to establish a periodical representing the interests of the Associations has not met with the encouragement from them that it deserved. Of course it is not claimed that the QUARTERLY, aside from the large amount of information concerning the Associations which it has contained, possessed any remarkable merit, although worth far more than the subscription price. Had the Associations been half faithful to their own interests in this matter, it would now have a circulation of not less than five thousand.

It is recommended that the Executive Committee be instructed to issue the periodical monthly, at the price of one dollar per year, its size remaining unchanged.

In regard to the importance of the publication and the benefits de-

rived from it, the Committee has only to repeat with added emphasis the observations made in the two previous reports. The experience of another year has but served to deepen the convictions heretofore expressed.

5. In accordance with the directions of the Convention, a call for the observance of the second Sabbath in November as a Day of Prayer for God's blessing upon the Associations throughout the world was issued, and mailed to all our Societies on this Continent and to many in Europe. More than two hundred Associations report the observance of the day; a small number when compared with the long list of those now in successful operation. It is pleasant to believe that the day was much more generally observed than these reports would seem to indicate. In many towns which have been greatly blessed with the presence of the Converting Spirit throughout the past winter, the beginning is dated from the Day of Prayer and the meetings held in observance of it. It can hardly be improper to submit extracts from one or two letters, in regard to this matter, from widely separated localities.

One Secretary writes: "With us the day was generally observed by our Evangelical Churches, as well as by our Association. We had full prayer meetings, morning and evening, at the Association rooms. The meetings were characterized by much depth of feeling. The afternoon was devoted to a union meeting of all our Churches, in our most spacious house of worship; and many profitable and encouraging addresses were made, intermingled with prayers for God's blessing upon our work. It seems as though we were already reaping benefit from the observance of the day. New energy and new vitality has seemed to mark the progress of our Association. We all have faith to believe that a revival of religion and a general reformation is not far distant in this part of our Lord's vineyard."

Another, "The day of prayer for the Y. M. C. A's of our land was duly observed in our city, by appropriate services in the several churches, in the morning, and by union services, in the M. E. Church, in the evening. Our pastors are all alive to the importance of the work of our Associations, and preached earnest, telling sermons on the occasion. The union services were somewhat interfered with by unfavorable weather, but were characterized by much earnestness and deep feeling."

Another says, "Our day of prayer was made a week of prayer, and the services did not close after the seven days were over, but God has moved the hearts of the people, and we are continuing them every noon and every evening."

And another writes: "On account of the absence of our Secretary, we did not receive the circular in time to request the Churches

to join us, having received it only on the day preceding that appointed as the Day of Prayer. We, however, brought the circular to the notice of the Churches, and appointed a meeting in the evening for prayer, for the specific purpose mentioned in the circular. This meeting was fully attended, two of the Churches having given up their usual Sunday evening meetings on that account. This was only one of many indications that, for the past four or five months, Christians of every name have been praying and working, with unusual earnestness, for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in this town. We are now enjoying a revival of wonderful power, which has spread through the town, and gives promise of reorganizing society. * * * * Our Association is reaping a great blessing from the work, nearly all the members being now either inquiring the way of salvation, or indulging a hope in Christ. We do not count converts until they unite permanently with some Church, and I can therefore give you no figures by which the work of grace can be measured. As an Association, we have organized three scouting parties, who go each week into the neglected districts of the town to hold prayer meetings. The state of religious feeling has been found to be such, that in one district one of the Churches took up the work, and held meetings in the school-house, every evening last week, with the happiest results. Another Church has commenced a similar work, in another district; and there is still another district, remote from any of our Churches, where, at the close of our last meeting, 9 persons rose for prayers; and we hope another Church will take up the work of Christian nurture there. We feel that the work of *feeding* the flock of Christ is the appropriate work of the Church, and have, therefore, been careful to foster and second whatever interest any Church may feel in any particular field. I have felt that our Association needed a President; as, besides my pre-occupation, I lack many qualifications for such a position. I think this need will be supplied at our next election, in May; for a person, in every way fitted for the position, has been converted to Christ, and is taking up all Christian duties with an earnestness which speaks well for his future usefulness."

Surely, if the Associations always remembered the words of Him who left us an example, that we should follow in His steps; "Neither pray I for these only, but for them also which shall believe on me, through their word," or those words of the great Apostle, "Ye also helping together by prayer for us that, for the gift bestowed upon us by the means of many persons, thanks may be given by many in our behalf," there would be no failure to unite in the observance of the Day of Prayer.

6. The wish of our Societies for direct, constant and sympathetic correspondence with kindred Associations of Europe was plainly declared at

Detroit, and the Committee has sought to fulfil the expectations and hopes there expressed.

It is to be regretted that so few members of our Associations avail themselves of letters to Associations abroad during their visits. Little can be accomplished through correspondence, compared with the results easily attained, if all opportunities for personal intercourse between the members of the American and European Associations are improved.

There was no delegate from America, representing the Associations in the Paris Conference, who made any report on his return; and the same is true of the Dublin Conference of last September.

A summary of the results of the visit of Mr. Stokes was presented in the May number of the *QUARTERLY*. His report, accompanied by letters since received, descriptive of the working of the Associations on the Continent, is appended hereto. He was most cordially received, and the deepest interest was everywhere manifested in his accounts of our own Societies.

Those who visit Europe, expecting to find there a band of Associations in all respects similar to our own, and prosecuting their work precisely in accordance with the mode prevailing here, will be disappointed. There they are almost entirely religious agencies, and some modes of working much employed by us are practically unknown. They are, however, one with us in the high object aimed at and in their working force; the points of diversity are but in regard to means. All hold fast with us to the grand declaration made at the Paris Conference in 1855:

"The Young Men's Christian Associations seek to unite those young men who, regarding Jesus Christ as their God and Saviour, according to the Holy Scriptures, desire to be his disciples in their doctrine and in their life, and to associate their efforts for the extension of his Kingdom amongst young men."

In efforts to make the Associations a thoroughly spiritual power, and in uniting them all together through an interest in the single purpose for which they are formed, our brethren abroad have attained a larger measure of success than ourselves. But the Societies here are much in the advance in the organization of the whole membership as a working force, and in the possession of popular influence and power.

It is desirable that all our members visiting Europe should be furnished with credentials of some sort to the Associations there; that they should make use of them while abroad, and report on their return all matters they deem of interest. The Christian young men of the two continents cannot be too closely bound together by these bonds of a common love for a common work for the one Master and Lord.

The Executive Committee has taken no step in the hope of cementing

such a union that has not met with a cordial response, and it only remains that we make available all the means placed at our disposal by Him whom we serve, to accomplish the results in this particular, so much desired. Appended to this report are papers prepared by Mr. Shipton, on the Associations of Great Britain; Mons. J. Ed. Barne, on those of France; and by other brethren, on those of Holland and Belgium. We may also say here that the Convention is favored with the presence of M. H. Hodder, Esq., of London, long a member and office-bearer in that Association, who represents among us, under proper credentials, the kindred Associations of Great Britain and Ireland.

7. The Detroit Convention instructed the Committee "to employ an agent to aid in the organization of Young Men's Christian Associations on the line of the Pacific Railroad, and in such other sections as might be determined upon after mature deliberation." Immediately after the adjournment of that Convention, a circular was addressed to all the Associations in the United States, covering the resolutions adopted in reference to this matter, and soliciting contributions to enable the Committee to conform to the wishes there expressed. None of these circulars were sent to the Associations in the British Provinces, as the Committee felt it could hardly have been intended by the Convention that a call should be made upon them for a work more especially pertaining to the United States.

In response to the circular the following subscriptions were received, namely: New-York, \$930; Omaha, \$500; Clinton, Mass., \$10; West Winsted, Conn., \$24.56; Holliston, Mass., \$16.50; Brunswick, Me., \$14; Waterville, Me., \$10.

The sum subscribed by Omaha has never come into the hands of the Committee, it having been retained by that Association under an arrangement satisfactory to all parties, by which, from time to time, payments were to be made from that fund on account of the work.

A correspondence with the Omaha Association resulted in the appointment of Mr. Robert Weidensall, of that city, as the agent of the Committee under the resolution, at a *pro rata* salary of \$1,500 per year. He began his work on the 19th of October last. He was to serve for a few months under the arrangement as originally made, but the appointment has been continued until this time, and will terminate with the discharge of this Committee. Many circumstances seemed to point to Bro. Weidensall as a fit person to be employed, and the discretion, good sense and energy he has displayed in the prosecution of his work, have more than vindicated the judgment of the Omaha brethren, who first suggested his name.

Omaha was made the starting point for the work, and in its prosecu-

tion, the line of the Union Pacific Railroad was deemed by the Committee as entitled to the earliest attention. Bro. Weidensall made a careful survey of the whole line of road, and while obedient to the commands of the Convention in devoting himself to the organization of new Associations, he neglected no opportunity for general Mission work which did not interfere with the main purpose of his employment. He continued on this line of road until he had accomplished all then probable in the organization of Associations, when, after consultation with the Committee, it was decided that he should make a brief visit to a few leading points in Southern Iowa, and then spend the remainder of his time in Kansas and Western Missouri, reserving enough, however, to allow of a visit to some of the Associations he had organized, and for another full trip over the Union Pacific Railroad. This programme has been faithfully carried out by Bro. Weidensall.

The mode he adopted in the organization of Associations is best shown in one of his own letters, which is here quoted: "Went out on the road to the first important town, Fremont, which contains a population of fifteen hundred persons. It is a quiet town, with many excellent citizens, having but two church buildings while there are eight Christian denominations represented. As soon as I went into the town I sought out the leading men in all evangelical denominations; also looked at all the public buildings, with a view to secure a room for the use of the Association I was about to establish. Having obtained the required information, I immediately proceeded to canvass the place; began at the extreme limits on one side and finished at the extreme limits on the other; did not pass by a single building wherein there was an intelligent being. I met persons of all kinds, and, with but a few exceptions, was kindly received. Took pains to lay before every one I met the objects and aims of Y. M. C. Associations, as I understood them. Occasionally I met those who were familiar with the workings of such associations. They passed into brotherly sympathy with me, and encouraged the formation of one in Fremont. A public meeting was called in the Congregational Church, Sabbath evening, October 25th. It was a precious meeting. It was new to many citizens in Fremont; however, all were pleased with it. As your agent, I stated the object of the meeting, and told them why I was in their midst; also specified a number of things to be accomplished by the Association, when it was once established."

An Association was formed here which promises much of good.

During the eight or nine months of his employment he has organized twelve Associations, traveling more than eight thousand miles, at an expense to the Committee of forty-two dollars. The details of this work are best stated in Brother Weidensall's report to the Committee, which is hereto annexed, and forms a part of this Report.

Your Committee considered the mission an experiment, and were not sanguine as to its success. It was well known that prominent Association men at the Detroit Convention entertained serious doubts in regard to it. The enthusiasm with which a recital of the origin and incidents of this mission have been received wherever related, the opinions everywhere expressed in its favor, the reference to it in the proceedings of the Pacific Coast Convention, and the formally reported results, have answered all apparent objections. There is no doubt now in the mind of any member of the Committee in regard to the duty of this Convention in the premises. It is, therefore, recommended that the Committee for the ensuing year be authorized and directed to continue the employment of the present agent in the far Western and Southern field, and that ample funds be provided for this purpose.

V. There are now known to be six hundred and fifty-nine Associations in existence on this continent—of course they are not all equally active; some, perhaps, have but a name to live, though there are none included in our enumeration whose letters or circulars are returned to us unopened. Three hundred and twenty-five have reported to this Convention. It is cause for regret that a larger number have not complied with the request made by the Committee in your name. It is hoped that this non-compliance, however, has not arisen from any lack of sympathy on the part of the members of these Societies in the general work, but from a lack of appreciation of the importance of these reports to our progress, as showing in an authentic form the real strength of the Associations, and also from a neglect on the part of Corresponding Secretaries, who in many instances are changed every year, and therefore not fully alive to the share of work committed to them.

The Associations are distributed as follows :

Maine.....	28	Illinois.....	32
New Hampshire.....	16	Kentucky.....	3
Vermont.....	51	Tennessee.....	1
Massachusetts.....	107	Missouri.....	12
Rhode Island.....	11	Kansas.....	6
Connecticut.....	37	Nebraska.....	5
New-York.....	67	Iowa.....	13
New Jersey.....	25	Wisconsin.....	15
Pennsylvania.....	21	Michigan.....	25
Maryland.....	12	Minnesota.....	8
Virginia.....	3	Oregon.....	1
West Virginia.....	4	Colorado.....	4
District of Columbia.....	4	California.....	4
South Carolina.....	5	Canada.....	25
Alabama.....	4	Nova Scotia.....	29
Mississippi.....	1	New Brunswick.....	4
Ohio.....	43	Prince Edward's Isle.....	1
Indiana.....	19	Bermuda, West Indies.....	3

A summary of a few of the facts presented in the reports received, will convey some, though an inadequate, idea of the present condition of the Associations :

1. The following Associations now own and occupy buildings fitted for their work, or are soon to do so, viz: Baltimore; Meriden, Conn.; Bethlehem, Pa.; Chicago, Ill.; Newtown, L. I.; Shoreham, Vt.; Philadelphia; San Francisco; German Association, New York City; Washington; Omaha; New-York City—twelve in all. This property is reported as possessing a cash value of \$1,399,000. Of course it is not wholly free from debt, but wherever there is any charge it is so arranged as to press but lightly upon the Association, while it is gradually removed by some scheme for a sinking fund.

2. The following Associations report building funds, viz., Poughkeepsie; Green Point, L. I.; Biddeford, Me.; Peoria, Ill.; New London, Conn.; Cape John, N. S.; Cleveland; Bristol; Ipswich, N. H.; Halifax; North Shore, S. I.; Newark; Painesville, Ohio; Boston; Westerly, R. I.; Saugerties; German Association, N. Y.; Newtown, L. I.; Plantsville, Conn.; St. Louis, Mo.; East Brooklyn and Brooklyn—twenty-one in all. Eighteen state the sum they have in hand at \$102,931.

3. One hundred and thirty-nine of these Associations report 104,181 volumes in their libraries, and value them at \$140,715.

4. Two hundred and nineteen report their current expenses at \$309,704.

5. One hundred and thirteen report courses of sermons.

6. Twenty-three, more than five weekly prayer meetings.

7. Fifty, two each week.

8. One hundred and sixty-one a weekly prayer meeting.

9. Sixty-three have a daily prayer meeting.

10. Sixty-five have open air services.

11. Forty-eight report Bible Classes.

12. Sixteen have had courses of lectures.

13. One hundred and nine report two thousand and sixty-three conversions. Many more report deep religious interest, but do not particularize as to direct results.

14. Two hundred and sixteen report a paying membership of 54,395. By a resolution of the Detroit Convention the members who actually paid their annual dues were to be reported, and hence there does not appear such an increase in this particular as might otherwise have been expected. There has been a careful pruning of the roll books. We believe the actual membership of all classes will reach ninety thousand. The Committee did not expect a large addition to the roll of members, or of Associations during the year. But in the three

following particulars they anticipated great progress, and have not been disappointed, viz. :

(1.) In the organization and prosecution of the local work of each Association. This department of service has been marked by an earnestness, a thoroughness, and a devotion to our special calling far beyond former years.

(2.) In the consolidation of public sentiment in regard to the Association and the hold they have gained upon public favor. They now take their stand as acknowledged agencies of the Church, not to be frowned upon and berated when failing to come fully up to the expectations of the fathers, but to be counselled and advised. No longer are slanders to be believed, because circulated by the jealous or the hostile, but we are to be supported against such assaults. The time was when it was only necessary to say an ill word against the Association to raise the hue and cry. That day has gone by. Now, in all honest efforts we have the hearty support of the friends of Christian progress, and if any Association strays occasionally from the right way, there are "charitable speeches" and friendly counsel.

(3.) In the increase of the feeling of oneness or unity in carrying forward our special work, and hence in the strengthening of the tie of brotherhood, on the part of all engaged in it. More than ever the sentiment seems to prevail, that each Association, though bound by no organic tie to any other, is but one in a long array of Christian organizations, striving, in unity and in love, for the evangelization of the young men of America. This, we all know, is primarily due to the influences of the Holy Spirit filling all hearts, as they have joined in the great work. Few who have not mingled in the gatherings of these organizations, or witnessed the meeting of brothers from widely separated fields of labor, can appreciate the extent and depth of the spirit of brotherly love. Two agencies are especially marked in the development of this spirit; one, the numerous State Conventions; this year no less than fifteen have been held, all, or nearly all having been largely attended and characterized by the most temperate, well-considered and spiritual discussion of our work. The other, the general observance of the second Sabbath of November as a Day of Prayer for God's blessing upon the work of the Associations.

VI. The Committee submits to the Convention the following, as among the topics for discussion, and asks that they be referred to the appropriate Committees.

1. The need of Buildings constructed for and owned by the Associations, and the plans for the accumulation of Building Funds.

2. Monthly, Social and Business Meetings of the Associations; the objects of each, and how each may be best conducted.

3. What forms of Christian effort, outside the special work for which the Associations are organized, have been most successful, and how have these been prosecuted?

4. How may the German young men of the country be reached by our influence?

5. The relation of the Associations on this continent to each other, as independent organizations, but similarly constituted, and having a common work and aim; and their united power in promoting the cause of Christ among the young men of America.

These were all suggested by men prominent in Associational work in various parts of the country, and are believed to merit careful consideration, and practical definite action.

As to that numbered four, it is proper to say that the Committee sought to obtain an essay upon the matters it suggests, but was unable to procure any person who had given the topic any especial thought, and it has, therefore, been deemed best to commit the question to the Convention upon the same terms as others.

As to that numbered five, the Committee desire it to have full discussion. It is believed to be fitted to draw out those views of our work most likely to aid in the formation of what may be termed a strong public sentiment in the Associations in regard to the general work. The Associations do not now feel that vivid interest in the building up of each other, in the organization of new Societies, and in the prosecution of an aggressive work that is desirable, particularly when we consider the breadth of our field of service, and the readiness with which Associations are accepted as a useful agency of the Church of Christ in places where they are newly formed.

VII. The Committee asks the action of the Convention upon the following matters:

1. The providing of means to enable the new Executive Committee to prosecute the work begun by Bro. Weidensall.

2. The providing of means for the employment of a Secretary and general agent by the new Committee. The probable growth of the Associations during another year will render the duties of the Committee so burdensome that men engaged in business will hardly be willing to undertake it. It is now too great to be wholly performed by voluntary agencies.

It should be the duty of this Secretary to attend to the formal correspondence of the Committee, visit Associations, attend State Conventions

- and edit the Monthly. He could also visit places not remote from the Central Office, assist in organizing new Associations, and perhaps meet some of the frequent calls to address meetings with which the Committee will be honored.

3. The changing of the QUARTERLY to a monthly, as heretofore suggested; but the publication should not be continued without a subscription list of at least five thousand guaranteed.

4. The appointment of the second Sabbath in November as a day of prayer, as has been done heretofore.

5. A comparison of views in this Convention in regard to the importance and mode of conducting State Conventions, and the adoption of some emphatic declaration embodying the views expressed by the Committee in this Report.

6. The reiteration of the resolution adopted at Detroit, in regard to the test of active membership, and the adoption of some stringent instructions to the agents of the Convention, in regard to the organization of any Associations upon a basis other than that so approved.

7. The designation of a part of an early session of the Convention, for the consideration of the work of the Western agency.

8. The taking of a subscription for the expenses of the Executive Committee for the ensuing year, which should not be less than five thousand dollars; also for the Monthly, if the change recommended in this Report is adopted, and for the Journal. Ample time at an early period should be set apart for this matter.

9. A full conference in the Convention upon the report of the Committee appointed at Detroit to organize a Lecture Bureau, and also the consideration of the report of the Bureau as organized.

10. Hon. Richard C. McConnick, for many years an active friend of the Associations, has in his possession the materials for a full history of this movement, and has the earlier chapters of such a history written. His absence and engagements, as Governor of Arizona, have heretofore prevented him from completing it. He is now spending a large part of his time at the East, and it is probable if this Convention made the request, he would resume the work so long suspended, and give to the friends of our cause a history of these societies which has long been needed. The adoption of a resolution to this effect is recommended.

11. At the last Convention a resolution was offered looking to the preparation of a Hymn Book for the use of the Association. Since that time two propositions for the publication of such a book have been made to the Executive Committee, viz.: (1) By Bro. Farmer of Detroit, who proposed that the book of hymns compiled by him should be published

under the sanction and with the imprint of the Committee, at a price sufficient to cover the cost of publication ; his labor and musical culture, in making the compilation, being offered as a contribution to the cause. (2). The other by Bro. Doane of Cincinnati, who proposes to give his time and talent in the preparation of a larger book, containing both hymns and tunes, which in his judgment could also be sold at a low rate, but at an advance upon the original cost. All profits to be employed by the Executive Committee in the prosecution of the general work. The Convention having failed to act upon the resolution referred to, the Committee did not feel authorized to close with either of these generous offers, and they now report them and ask definite action from the Convention.

VIII. Finances. There was in the hands of the Treasurer, when the last Report was submitted, the sum of \$1,009.24, which has been considered as a part of the General Fund. A statement of that fund is as follows :

Balance on hand at last report.....	\$1,009 24
Added from subscriptions during the year.....	760 28
Cash paid out	781 52
Now due from subscriptions to the fund.....	185 00
Subscriptions due from all other sources.....	296 50
Due for advertising	375 50

There must be paid out of the money now in hand, in closing up the work of this Committee, the expenses incident to the Convention and the cost of issuing the August number of the *QUARTERLY*.

Detailed statements of the Treasurer accompany this Report.

IX. A few words in regard to the progress of the Associations during the last three years may not be undesirable. With a knowledge of the particulars of their rapid growth, the Convention may act with greater appropriateness in regard to the future.

The Executive Committee, reporting to the Albany Convention, (no one who knows the gentlemen who composed it will question their earnestness in this work, or the thoroughness of their performance of duty,) gave some statistics in regard to sixty-two Associations. Reports have been made to this Convention by three hundred and forty-seven. We have no means of ascertaining the exact number of Associations existing in June, 1866, though there were more than sixty-two, perhaps seventy-five. Now the Committee learns, from all sources, of the existence of six hundred and fifty-nine. In 1866, fifty-four reported 15,588 members of all classes, paying and not paying ; now 290 report 54,784 members on a revised roll, containing none but the names of those who testify their interest by a payment of annual dues.

Thirty-three then reported 34,577 volumes in libraries; now 127 report 94,146 volumes, valued at \$121,805. One year ago, ninety reported 61,824 volumes, valued at \$100,601. Showing for the single year a generous increase, especially when we consider that both reports embrace the returns of the largest and oldest Associations.

Another circumstance illustrating this progress during the three years is found in the increase of receipts and expenditures. We may take the Association at New-York as a type. For the year ending one month prior to the Albany Convention the expenses were \$9,210.49 and a small sum remained in the treasury. For the last year the expenditures were \$16,325 or thereabouts; and in this respect there has been a corresponding increase all over the country. The results realized have kept pace with this increase.

There are two additional particulars in which vast progress has been made during the past three years, to which it seems proper to advert.

Then but one Association in the land, so far as the Committee is advised, owned a building devoted to its use, viz., one of the three in operation in Baltimore. The Associations of Chicago and New-York had made considerable progress in the accumulation of their building funds, and two or three others had begun an effort in that direction. The present condition of the Associations in this particular has already been noticed. Surely there is a wide contrast between the two.

Another particular is in regard to the favor with which the Associations are viewed.

It was thought fit to say of them in the earlier days, "the American Christian Associations, with few exceptions, have not the highest influences of society arrayed in their direct support to cast a social prestige about them, no generous supply of means to send missionaries into the field to publish tracts and papers to young men. The young men themselves must do all." More than this was true. We encountered decided opposition. It is not desirable, however, that this Report should recall, and this day of rejoicing be darkened by a particular recital of the position of affairs anterior to the meeting of the Albany Convention. But all has been changed. The young men have, as before, constituted the working force; God has given them wisdom to plan, strength to execute, and crowned their labors with an abundant blessing. Energy to perform, and results actually realized, have brought to our support the halting and the doubtful, so that there is now no just and proper thing which these Associations can ask of the Christian and philanthropic men and women of America, which is not cheerfully granted.

Let it not be supposed that the position we now hold is not fraught with dangers on every side. More than ever do we need humility, wisdom—wisdom from on high—discretion in counsel, and in action; pru-

dence—how much of prudence—in word and doctrine. Those who are conversant with the general history of our work, know full well how ready, even now, some are to find fault. One indiscreet declaration, a single foolish word or act is often made the ground, in some quarters, for a general complaint against the whole of our brotherhood. A good fight has been fought against the Adversary. We strive to win from his influence and power those most useful to him in his warfare against the truth, and he is ever on the watch for an opportunity to strike down these Societies. He is not scrupulous of means, and is as ready to foster, to our ruin, a jealousy among those who should love us, as to accept the services of avowed enemies of the truth. The history of these Societies contains such abundant evidence of the approval of the great Head of the Church, their future is so full of promise, the work, though special, is so wide in its scope, and the reward of the laborer so grand and enduring, that we can well afford to make haste slowly, so long as we are sure we are actually advancing.

We have but to trust God, to grasp the hand that lifted Peter from the sea, to “become as little children,” and the victory here and hereafter will be ours. “They that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament, and they that turn many to righteousness, as the stars forever and ever.”

In behalf of the Executive Committee,

CEPHAS BRAINERD, *Chairman.*

PACIFIC RAILROAD MISSION.

REPORT OF MR. ROBERT WEIDENSALL, AGENT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON THE PACIFIC RAILROAD.

On the 19th October, 1868, after the necessary arrangements between the Executive Committee and myself, I entered upon the Pacific Railroad Mission. To me it was a field of labor new, and full of promise; at the same time I had misgivings as to the *degree* of its success.

It was new, because it was the first experiment of the kind; was full of promise, for, knowing well the characteristics of Western men, I saw in Young Men's Christian Associations a peculiar adaptiveness to the Western missionary work.

My inexperience almost made me shrink from the undertaking. My first labors were on the Union Pacific Railroad. Along the line of this road I spent most of my time, intervening between the 19th of October and the assembling of the Convention, in July, in organizing Associations, preaching at various stations, making provisions to secure the services of Evangelical Ministers wherever I could, scattering Tracts and holding special religious intercourse with railroad men and others.

The remainder of the time I spent in Iowa, Missouri, Kansas and

Colorado, in organizing Associations and ascertaining where future work could be done.

I have traveled over eight thousand miles by rail and boat, not including the trip to the Convention, at a cost to the Committee of forty-two dollars; and I have succeeded in organizing, and partially organizing, twelve Associations; in making provisions to secure the services of an Evangelical Minister at one point on the Union Pacific Railroad, and have entered upon a correspondence that will, I hope, ere long, result in supplying another station with a good and faithful minister.

Most of this work was performed in an unpropitious season of the year, from mid-Winter to the middle of the Spring; especially is this the case in Iowa, Nebraska and Kansas, where fuel is very high and comfortable rooms cannot be obtained except at exorbitant prices. Then, too, this district over which I passed had been visited with grasshopper plagues for two successive Summers previous. The crops were destroyed by them; business and business men suffered in consequence, and many farmers were compelled to sell their farms to provide themselves with the necessaries of life.

Experience has demonstrated to me that the best, as well as the most satisfactory, way to organize a Young Men's Christian Association in a strange town is, first, to visit all the Evangelical Ministers, the spiritual guardians of the place, and consult with them as to the possibility of effecting a working organization. Obtain from each of them a list of his most active members, and visit them personally. Ask their advice, consider with Christian courtesy their objections, and in nine cases out of ten you will secure their co-operation.

The agent in this mission finds many encouragements, and is cordially met by large hearted Christians of all denominations, both in the ministry and lay membership. Denomination bias, although manifest among Western Christians, is not so exclusive as in the East. There is a prevalent opinion throughout the West in favor of free reading rooms, and strong sympathies for the Y. M. C. Associations and its unselfish Christian work. I have not visited a single town of any importance that was not ready to form an Association forthwith or had not one in prospect.

Our beloved society is now associated with the church and school-house. No town is considered complete without a Y. M. C. Association. Church buildings are almost invariably open to commence the work of organization and hold stated meetings in until suitable rooms can be obtained. All classes of men are willing to contribute to the maintenance of a free reading room, if with no other motive than to advertise the town favorably abroad.

But there are also discouragements; men are so bound up by temporal mottoes that most of them seem to regard eternity as insignificant when compared with time, or to think that time is all of eternity. All shades of religionists, other than Evangelical Christians, combine with the world to discourage the progress of this mission; they represent the Association as a new denomination to supplant all the others. Sometimes they enter the primary meetings for organization, among the most zealous apparently, and very conscientiously (?) spring questions which tend to mar all harmony in the commencement, and sometimes eventually prove the downfall of the Association.

Christians belong to three or four societies outside of the Church and

attend the meetings of these punctually. If any meetings are to be neglected the Church or Christianity is the loser every time.

A Church sociable, party or dance is preferable to a prayer meeting.

Some denominationalists look upon the Association as an instrument of unrighteousness, because it has not the image and superscription of their peculiar dogma, and pharisaically gather their garments tightly about them lest they should be contaminated with this leprous thing. Then, too, rents for favorably located rooms and prices of fuel are very high. A boy can scarcely be secured to keep rooms open for less than forty dollars per month. Hence the expenses necessary to maintain an Association and free reading room are very heavy.

Before giving an outline of the formation and present condition of each individual Association, I desire that you would consider the unpropitious season, already referred to, in which many of them were commenced, as well as the time when I received their reports to lay before this Convention, which was the early part of June, when the evenings are among the shortest, and when indeed the interest in old established Associations begins to flag.

The Association at Fremont, Nebraska, was organized in October; numbered 83 members, active, associate and auxiliary, I believe. They fitted up an unfinished room in the Court House, which insures them the use of it for several years. It is convenient for the whole community.

A good selection of daily, weekly and monthly papers, periodicals and books has been placed in the room. An experienced librarian from New Haven, Conn., took charge of the room. The weekly prayer meeting has been maintained and a number of lectures have been delivered under the auspices of the Association.

At this season of the year many of its officers and active members are engaged in improving homesteads and pre-empted lands, which compels their temporary absence from town. The Association feels the effect of this, but the President assured me that he would do all he could to keep up the interest during the summer.

I predict for this Association a good work next fall and winter. It is not involved in debt, but has funds on hand.

In the month of November I assisted in the organization of the Cheyenne Association; spent considerable labor to render certain its success; solicited 165 members and collected one hundred and thirty-five dollars and fifty cents (\$135.50), which sum has been deposited in bank up to this time. But unforeseen difficulties presented themselves, consequently nothing has been done as yet.

Immediately after I had succeeded in completing the organization, there was a disposition on the part of the public to assist in purchasing a building and lot. The Room Committee were negotiating for a building on a leased lot, but did not want to buy unless they could secure the lot also. An unreasonable price was asked for the lot, hence this project failed. They negotiated for another building less favorably located. Before the bargain was closed, however, the selling party demanded more and would not part with the property at the first price. This failure was followed up by the great snow blockade, and soon afterwards by the wholesale discharge of hands by N. P. R. R. Co., and contractors, and by the non payment of all hands retained, for so long a time, that business was almost prostrated. Cheyenne to-day is suffering from these

drawbacks, but her live business men and future prospects will before long work a decided change. It is bound at no distant day to become a flourishing place. It will be the most western junction on the N. P. R. R., where the Northern and Southern traffic will seek a common track. By all means there should be an active Association in Cheyenne. All that is needed is a room of their own. I fear they are not able to purchase it now.

I took up a subscription of six hundred dollars in North Platte, and one hundred and forty one dollars in Sidney, both stations on the Union Pacific Railroad, to secure for them the regular services of an Evangelical Minister. The field was most promising. I could have raised more money, I am sure; but the great discharge of hands already referred to, and non-payment of those retained, completely reversed the order of things. Besides, the Railroad Hotel and car-shop in North Platte were burned down, which rendered matters much worse. The Minister, Rev. E. W. Cook, has been in the field for three months. He is a most excellent man. Many of the subscribers have gone away, and those who remain are without money. Mr. Cook thinks he will leave for the present, but will not abandon the field, for there is yet promise in it. Many will regret his departure, and perhaps will conclude to raise the amount necessary to induce him to stay.

However, this mission has not been without its fruits, for a much better tone has been given to the community; and, besides, Mr. Cook went to Cheyenne, organized a congregation, and secured a young man to preach for them, who is on the ground now, and intends to stay.

There is a large German population at Grand Island, Union Pacific Railroad, mostly members of the Lutheran Church. I have been corresponding with them, with a view to provide them with a God-like man to preach to them the pure, wonder-working Gospel.

In January and beginning of February, I organized four Associations in Iowa—at Clinton, Montana, Boonsboro and Jefferson; all stations on the Chicago and North-Western Railroad. Two of these, the Montana and Jefferson Associations, continue their organizations, and hold their regular business and prayer meetings, but have not as yet opened reading rooms.

I have not heard from Boonsboro, and can say nothing about the Association there. It is a good town, with material sufficient to maintain a working organization.

The Clinton Association was formed in the early part of January, and has proved a complete success. They have secured a large and centrally located room, for the monthly business and weekly prayer meetings of the society. They have also a first-class reading room, fitted up in good taste, having file reading matter: 10 daily papers, 58 weekly and monthly papers, 14 of which are religious, including the leading organs of almost all denominations, and 40 magazines and periodicals. Number of active members who have signed the Constitution, 40. Whole number on the rolls, and proposed for membership, about 70. Regular prayer meetings are kept up with marked interest, and business meetings are well attended. A regular weekly mission meeting has been established and maintained by the Association.

Clinton is a good point on the Mississippi River, and one of the most rapidly growing towns in the West, and among the most beautiful.

In Kansas, during the month of April, I organized three Associations: in Atchison, Junction City and Ottawa. Have received no report from the Ottawa Association, and can say nothing of its present condition.

The Society at Junction City maintains its existence. Regular meetings are held. The membership is small, but considerable interest is manifested in its success. Their request is, "Remember our young Association in your prayers; we are on the advanced picket post." Junction City is west of Fort Riley, near the junction of the Smoky Hill and Republican Rivers. The town is surrounded by a most beautiful country.

Have received two reports from Atchison; the first was quite flattering, declaring the Association a complete success, and that it numbered forty members. This report was made in April. In June I received a more doleful account. Things had not worked fully up to their expectations. The main difficulty was to secure a quorum, at the meeting of the Board of Directors. Here was the only place that the quorum for the Board was more than five. I told them that it would check them sooner or later. However, the president thinks that they will be able to get into running order, at the expense of considerable labor and time.

There is good material in Atchison and plenty of it. If the Association can merely outlive the summer, its success in the fall and winter will be as complete as they anticipated. There are good rooms in the place, and rents are comparatively low.

During the month of May I began the organization of three Associations in Missouri: one in Warrensburg, on the Missouri Pacific R. R., which proved a failure before the organization was completed, the principal cause of which was the inclemency of the weather.

The Association in Jefferson City, the capital of the State, which numbers but five members as yet, is hopeful of doing much good. In this city there is a most excellent field for Y. M. C. Association work. The city is thronged with excellent young men, but few of them are identified with the Church. I was heartily welcomed by all the ministers; although to some extent divided among themselves, all actually united in the organization of the Association there. This is the only place where the German element was represented in forming a Society.

An Association also exists in Chillicothe, from which I have received a favorable report, stating that the society numbered fifty members, and the soliciting committee had not all yet reported. They have engaged the Good Templars' Hall; have held weekly meetings ever since the organization of the Society. The members have had more uphill work than was at first anticipated. Bad weather was one of the difficulties in the way. The President reports subscriptions from professed infidels, who express their willingness to do something for the masses.

The Association at the time of the report was preparing to hold a grand mass meeting, in which all the churches but one would heartily co-operate.

With firm reliance upon God, and with the daily prayers of those who are identified with the Y. M. C. A. work, the President thinks the organization can be made a success, even beyond present expectations.

In the vast field over which I have passed, I found associations at Marshalltown, Cedar Rapids and Council Bluffs in Iowa; at Leavenworth, Lawrence, Topeka in Kansas, at Kansas City, Pleasant Hill, Sedalia, St.

Louis, Hannibal, Macon and St. Joseph in Missouri, and at Denver, Colorado Ty.

I could have benefitted some of these Associations, but time could not be spared. I consulted with the officers of the Denver Association, which has the name Christian, but makes no pretensions to piety, and they were of the opinion that it could be turned to a Christian account. Its reading room has been until recently a success and is yet open.

Central City, Golden City and Boulder City, I was informed, had reading rooms if not Christian Associations. I received some months ago a very encouraging letter from Logansport, Indiana. When I passed through that town last winter I met several of its members, gave them all the information I could and left with them several Association documents, among them the *Quarterly*.

It is my opinion that new associations can be formed at Lyons, Sioux City and other points in Iowa; at Nebraska City, and perhaps at Lincoln and Dakota in Nebraska; at Independence, Palmyra, Warrensburg, and Cameron in Missouri.

All the Associations I have succeeded in organizing should be visited again, for labor thus spent will produce a large yield.

We now have the inside track of any one institution. The mission is appreciated. The workmen along the line of the Union Pacific Railroad desire its continuance. Observation has assured me that in few cases has more substantive good been effected with the same outlay of time and money. I consider the mission a success; it remains for the Convention to pass judgment.

In almost all Western towns the Germans, assisted by all who court their influence, are building large temples to Bacehus. You can be in full communion with them, though you belong to any society or organization under the sun, save the Christian Church and a temperance society, of course.

I will here state that one young man in the West is of much more account than another possessing the same abilities in the East. You ask me why. Because all society in the West is being organized. Every young man is a formative part, that cannot be cast out.

Will the Convention allow the active young men of the West, who make up two-thirds of the organic body, to enter the gates of Hell in broad day-light, without making effort to open a gate to Heaven for them, which shall be open every day in the week? No Christian organization can get more young men to work with it than a Young Men's Christian Association.

With a firm reliance upon God, that He will direct all departments of His Church, and will send His missionaries wherever they are most needed, I subscribe myself your Brother in Christ,

ROBERT WEIDENSALL,

Agent F. M. C. A.

REPORTS OF CORRESPONDING MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, FOR THE SEVERAL STATES AND PROVINCES.

REPORT OF CORRESPONDING MEMBER FOR CONNECTICUT.

During the past year only six Associations have been organized, viz.: Wallingford, North Stonington, Danbury, New Canaan, Danielsonville and Guilford. On the whole the efficiency of the institution is increased, in some instances greatly. Some Associations which were organized just prior to the Detroit Convention have become a power in the places where they are located.

In one place we learn that the day appointed as a Day of Prayer was duly observed. Sermons were delivered from the sacred desk from these texts: "Brethren, pray for us," and "I am full of power by the spirit of the Lord," followed by a public prayer meeting—and the good influence is felt to this day.

In another place two prayer meetings were held in the room of the Association, which were very fully attended, and the prayers were not only answered on the spot by one asking an interest for himself, but an interest commenced at that time which still continues; and scores have been hopefully converted. The Association in this place holds fourteen prayer meetings weekly in their rooms.

Another Association has been blessed with a most powerful revival, which began with the observance of the Day of Prayer, and the President in writing of it says that "we had a large associate membership, but they are now all active members. They have all been converted, and the revival has been so general as to cause an almost entire change in public sentiment. The churches have been literally filled with converts."

Another place rejoices in a glorious revival, but which seems confined almost entirely to the meetings and particular influence of the Association. These meetings are full to overflowing and many have been converted. In fact, nearly every place where the Day of Prayer was heartily observed has been greatly blessed, while from those who neglected the opportunity we have no such "good news."

It seems to me that the primary object of the Association, viz., "The conversion of young men to Christ," has been more nearly accomplished in Connecticut this year than ever before. We feel to thank God, to take courage and press on.

There are but two buildings owned by Associations in our State as yet, but I feel that this will not be said of us another year. Probably one cause why no more buildings are owned by the Associations is, that the work of collecting the necessary amount of funds seems too great an undertaking; but those who feel this are probably not aware of the fact that it is easier to raise funds to put up a building, a part of which may be rented, thereby giving the Association a constant and sure income, than it is to raise sufficient to defray running expenses.

Fraternally yours,

HORACE P. HOADLEY.

REPORT OF CORRESPONDING MEMBER FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The field of the Corresponding Member for the District of Columbia, is so circumscribed and has been so well cultivated by my predecessors, that there is little of interest to communicate in the way of a report.

The list of questions accompanying your circular-letter, No. 6, will put you in possession, when properly filled out and returned, of such information from each of our three Associations as will enable you to set them before the public in their proper light.

The names of the three Associations as they now appear, are "Colored Young Men's Christian Association," *Pres.*, James L. Thomas, *Sec.*, Wm. A. Freeman; "East Washington Young Men's Christian Association," *Pres.*, Wm. Muirhead, *Sec.*, Thos. Somerville; "Young Men's Christian Association of the City of Washington," *Pres.*, Major-General O. O. Howard, *Cor. Sec.*, Luther E. Sleigh; *Rec. Sec.*, Wm. Lamborn.

The "Colored Y. M. C. A.," has at present one Mission Sabbath School, with an average attendance of about 75 scholars and teachers.

The "East Washington" has three in flourishing condition, one of which is at the County Alms House. At another the teachers have succeeded in creating such a religious interest of a permanent character as to result in the erection of a chapel soon to be dedicated.

Under the auspices of our Y. M. C. A. for the City of Washington, two new Mission Schools have been organized during the year, and one discontinued. We have now four in active operation, viz: Canal Mission, white school, C. B. Bailey, *Supt.*; colored school, C. H. Mervin, *Supt.*; Providence Hospital, W. D. Blackford, *Supt.*; Corner 20th and R Streets, J. S. Slater, *Supt.*

On the 26th of May, the new rooms in our Y. M. C. A. Building, were dedicated by a grand re-union and appropriate ceremonies. It was an occasion long to be remembered by our Association, and we hope will not soon be forgotten by some good friends of the cause from abroad, who were present with us, among whom were Messrs. J. V. Farwell, of Chicago, and Geo. H. Stuart, of Philadelphia, Pa.

We take possession of our new quarters under the most favorable auspices in the enjoyment of an unprecedented temporal and spiritual prosperity. Very little has been done in the past year, however, compared with what we hope to do in the year upon which we have just entered, principally because we have not been able to locate our rooms conveniently. Our present rooms are very commodious, as well as easy of access.

Our General Secretary, Rev. Geo. A. Hall, has made himself very useful and efficient, and has endeared himself to us all by his uniformly kind and friendly manner, while he has procured for the Association the interest and assistance of all the active Christian denominations of the city. We are prepared to recommend to every Association of the land the employment of a paid Secretary, if such an one can be found who combines urbanity of manners with an absorbing interest in the salvation of souls.

Affectionately, your brother in Christ,

LUTHER E. SLEIGH,

Cor. Member for D. C.

REPORT OF CORRESPONDING MEMBER FOR ILLINOIS.

During the year information as to organization, &c., has been furnished on application to the following named Associations, which have passed through the preliminaries of formation and have, I believe, with one exception, all gone to work in their respective localities, viz.: Brimfield, Rev. A. Bowers, *Pres.*; Princeville, officers not reported; Henipin, J. W. Smith, *Pres.*; Monmouth, officers not reported; Princeton, officers not reported; Elmwood, not fully organized. There are other new Associations organized under the auspices of the Chicago Association, from whom I have been unable to secure reports.

We have during the year written and distributed about 1,100 letters, circulars and packages throughout the States and have expended about \$37.

Prayerfully yours,

W. H. WOODS.

REPORT OF CORRESPONDING MEMBER FOR INDIANA.

Mr. Judson submits a very concise tabulated report, full of valuable statistics, which have been incorporated in their proper place in the general statistical table to be found elsewhere. No details are given in the character of a formal report which can be presented here.

REPORT OF CORRESPONDING MEMBER FOR IOWA.

We have twenty-four Young Men's Christian Associations in Iowa. Some are alive to the work, others are cold and inactive. Nearly or quite all these have been organized within three years. A State Convention of the Associations met at Cedar Rapids in April last. About one-half of the Associations were represented. Practical topics intimately connected with the work were discussed and the meeting was a glorious success. In some places Associations have been organized, and lived for a short time, only to droop and die. In the larger cities of the State a daily prayer meeting is sustained in connection with the Association. I estimate that twelve Associations have daily prayer meetings. The remainder have weekly meetings. Three or four employ city missionaries. Ten Associations have been formed during the past year.

I have addressed a printed circular to every Association, asking for information, but have succeeded in getting satisfactory returns from but few of them. I feel confident that during another year I could succeed in getting reports from all and have a report to send you in some shape. The reason I think so is that we now have a State Convention, which will meet next year, and we shall ask for a report from each Association then, whether represented or not. We are also about to publish the proceedings of the April Convention in pamphlet form, and I think that will stimulate the delinquent Associations to some extent at least. I feel confident that we shall get into good working order now very soon, and that our great and growing commonwealth will stand second to none in the great work of Young Men's Christian Associations.

May God bless you as members of the Committee in the arduous work

you have in hand, and may the gathering at Portland be owned of the Master in the salvation of souls.

Your Brother in the Lord Jesus,

GEO. R. RANSOM,

Cor. Member for Iowa.

REPORT OF THE CORRESPONDING MEMBER FROM MAINE.

The year 1867-8 was a year of remarkable activity in the cause of Associations in Maine; a large number of Associations were organized; a large amount of efficient work was done for the Master. Young Men's Christian Associations now exist in nearly all the leading towns of the State, though there are some unfortunate exceptions. At our last State Convention the Corresponding Member was authorized to proceed to the organization of new Associations in several of the seaboard towns, still without them—Thomaston, Rockland and Belfast. I have corresponded and discussed the subject with several pastors and others at those points, but the favorable time for beginning did not seem to them at hand. At Thomaston, I am informed, an Association was once organized, but on account of the departure of young men from town, it was found difficult to sustain it. At Rockland it is exceedingly important that an Association should be organized as soon as the Christian young men of that city can be made to feel its necessity.

The work of Associations in Maine is less exclusively for young men than in the great cities. Our efforts are largely in the field of mission schools and cottage prayer meetings. I append such statistics as I have been able to gather. Though I have sent printed circulars to each Association in the State, asking for all statistics that are of interest, I have heard from only about one-half of the Associations—but I am able to form a fair estimate of the condition of the field from such facts as have been furnished me. Associations have been formed in Maine at the following points: Portland, Auburn, Lewiston, Biddeford, Saco, Sacarappa, Gorham, Oxford, Norway, Andover, Yarmouth, Mechanics Falls, Leeds, Winthrop, Gray, Bath, Brunswick, Richmond, Gardiner, Hallowell, Augusta, Waterville, Skowhegan, Farmington, Bangor, Dexter, Wiscasset, 27 in all. The work of the Corresponding Member has been circumscribed narrowly, for the reason that all his expenses for traveling, for circulars, &c., were necessarily met from his own pocket. The Associations of the State should raise a fund of at least \$200 per year, to be expended by the Corresponding Member in the prosecution of State Association work. If a Corresponding Member of more means, leisure and Christian graces were selected, it might, perhaps, contribute more fully to this result.

The Association, whose success has been most manifest and remarkable, is the Biddeford Association, which seems to have been in a constant state of revival. The Association at Gray has also been greatly blessed. I condense all needed information in the following statistics:

Portland—*Pres.*, Andrew J. Chase; *Cor. Sec.*, Jas. H. Coffin; 424 members—increase for the year, 87; conversions, 30; number prayer meetings weekly, 3 at rooms, 5 elsewhere, 5 at Sunday Schools; average attendance, 100 at rooms, at Sunday Schools, 40. Reading room open

daily, 54 papers, &c. 3,000 tracts distributed. Population of Portland, 33,000; 3 Baptist churches, 9 Congregational, 4 Methodist, 3 Episcopal, besides Universalist and Unitarian. The sailors are visited every Sabbath. The rooms are in the 3d story and need to be lower down.

Lewiston—*Pres.*, A. G. Chick; *Cor. Sec.*, G. W. Garcelon; 163 members; prayer meetings at rooms Sunday morning and evening, 7 prayer meetings, 7 Sabbath schools. Population 14,000; reading room open daily, 28 papers, &c., 200 volumes in library, 70,000 (!) pages of tracts distributed; a city Missionary is employed, the manufacturing corporations of the city subscribing \$800 to the Association for that purpose annually. Open air meetings are held every Sabbath at 5½ P. M.

Biddeford—*Pres.*, R. M. Hobbs; *Cor. Sec.*, B. N. Towle; 225 members—increase for the year, 100; conversions, 270; 9 prayer meetings; 1 Sunday school; average attendance, 150 at prayer meetings. Population, 10,000; 6 churches; reading room; 3 000 pages tracts distributed. Very great religious interest and a large number of conversions at the rooms.

Hallowell—*Pres.*, H. A. Tobey; *Cor. Sec.*, A. F. Morse; 40 members; 5 prayer meetings; 1 Sunday school; average attendance, good; at Sunday school, 50. Population, 2,500; 5 churches; a good interest prevails.

Farmington—*Pres.*, Geo. W. Stanley; *Cor. Sec.*, E. W. Perkins; 60 members; 1 prayer meeting; average attendance, 8. Population, 3,000; 4 churches; 25 copies, "Christian at Work," taken.

Yarmouth—*Pres.*, A. L. Loring; *Cor. Sec.*, J. M. Cobb; 42 members; conversions, 3; 4 prayer meetings; average attendance, 45. Population, 2,500; 4 churches; prayer meetings are held in Cumberland in school houses.

Gray—*Pres.*, Thomas Gilpatrick (has not acted), Rev. E. Bean, *Acting Pres.*; *Cor. Sec.*, Edward Marr; 44 members; increase for the year, 27; 48 conversions; 3 prayer meetings, 1 Sabbath school; average attendance, 50. 1,800 population; 2 churches. Association formed September, 1868. Great revival work last winter.

Mechanics' Falls—*Pres.*, John W. Penney; *Cor. Sec.*, William Jones; 26 members; conversion, 1; 4 prayer meetings weekly; 2 Sunday schools; average attendance, 20 at meetings, 100 at Sunday schools. Population, 1,100; 4 churches; reading room; 75 vols. in library; 2,400 pages tracts distributed and 50 Bibles.

Saco—*Pres.*, H. P. Cobb; *Cor. Sec.*, A. C. Tuxbury; 71 members; 3 conversions; 2 prayer meetings weekly; average attendance, 250. Population, 7,000; organized past year; 3,000 pages tracts distributed. Meetings at the Manufacturing Company's boarding houses during the winter.

Brunswick—*Pres.*, Edwin F. Brown; *Cor. Sec.*, John Furbish; 50 members; increase for the year, 5; conversions, 7; 5 prayer meetings weekly; 2 Sunday Schools; average attendance, 120 at prayer meeting, 70 at Sunday school. Population, 5,000; 9 churches; 3,000 pages tracts distributed and 350 copies "Christian at Work." Good interest; in the 5 outside meetings encouraging interest.

Sacarappa—*Pres.*, Albion P. Stiles; *Cor. Sec.*, Albert Chase; 15 members; 2 prayer meetings weekly; attendance good. Population, 2,000; 2 churches. Chief interest in the prayer meetings. No mission work done thus far this year.

Auburn—*Pres.*, A. M. Jackson ; *Cor. Sec.*, Addison Small ; 230 members ; about 25 conversions ; 6 prayer meetings weekly ; 7 Sunday schools ; average attendance, 75. Open air meetings held alternate Sabbath afternoons. About 400 children in the mission schools. A reading room with 20 papers, and a library of about 1,100 volumes. Population, 8,000.

Bangor—*Pres.*, William P. Hubbard ; *Cor. Sec.*, C. B. Lakin ; 72 members. The Bangor Association makes the most melancholy report of any Association in the State. Absolutely no work is done by it ; no meetings are held ; it has no reading room. All this in a city of probably 20,000 inhabitants, the second city in Maine. The reasons for this inactivity are not stated, but it probably is because the devil is not dead in Bangor.

As nearly as I can estimate, there are in the aggregate in the Y. M. C. A.'s of Maine, about 2,000 Christian members, of whom about 200 are ladies. There are about 500 associate members. The number of conversions the past year has been about 400, of which a large proportion, or rather more than one-half, occurred in the Biddeford Association. The State Convention recommended the admission of the sisters of the churches into the Associations of the State. The Biddeford and Auburn Associations seem to have made a successful effort in securing lady memberships, and the sisters co-operate very successfully in the mission work of the Associations. About a quarter of a million of pages of tracts have been distributed in the State, and the gospel has reached about 10,000 souls, who would probably have been neglected but for our Association work.

F. L. DINGLEY,

Corresponding Member for Maine.

REPORT OF CORRESPONDING MEMBER FOR MARYLAND.

The work of the Associations has made some progress in this State during the last year. The Associations in existence a year ago have, for the most part I believe, done a great deal of good ; and in the last four months several Associations have been formed, which bid fair to do a good work in the future.

The Associations of Baltimore, having the largest field for effort, and being thoroughly organized, have the greatest results to report. There are four Associations. Only one of these, I believe, has rooms and a library. The others hold frequent meetings, conduct Sabbath schools, and attend to other Christian work.

The largest of these Associations has its rooms in a central part of the city, and is, by means of its library and meetings of various kinds, doing a great deal of good among young men.

The annual report of this Association, a large part of which was in the *Monthly* for June, contains a great deal of valuable information. That report indicates that they are not behind any in the land in their efforts to benefit young men. They keep up noon-day, Saturday night and Sabbath afternoon prayer meetings. They have commenced street preaching on Sabbath afternoons. They are now publishing a monthly paper, known as "*The Young Man's Friend*." A Young Women's

Association has also been formed, which bids fair to be useful. This is auxiliary to the Young Men's Association. The rooms have just been handsomely painted and furnished, and now present a very attractive appearance. They are also making an effort to raise the means to build a hall, similar in beauty and capacity to those erected in other cities.

The Frederick Association has shown a good deal of vigor since the anniversary, which was held in January. Cottage prayer meetings have been held, which have been productive of good results. The Sabbath evening prayer meetings have been well attended. The meetings held at the jail and alms-house have been a source of benefit to the inmates. The hall now used by the Association, is used certain evenings by the Good Templars and the Library Association. They contemplate fitting it up in a beautiful manner, and making it an attractive resort for the young men.

Of other Associations, which have been in working condition for several years, I have no information.

The interest in this work has steadily increased during the year in different parts of the State. The new Associations formed are proof of this. In February an Association was formed in Baltimore for colored young men. Ministers of several denominations showed their interest in this movement by their presence and counsel. We believe they have gone steadily forward, and have accomplished good. We expected to organize an Association for colored young men in this place (Frederick); but the way did not seem prepared for it. Soon, we have no doubt, the effort can be made with success.

In Cumberland the interest in this work seemed to be quite strong. The young men met the pastors of the churches and formed an Association, which started with fair numbers, and with the prospect of great usefulness.

In Westminster there has been an Association formed. The organization of this has been so recent that my information concerning it is quite meagre.

In looking back upon the past year, we have great reason to be thankful to God for the progress which has been made. Many young men have been in training in these Associations for usefulness in the Church of Christ. Many have been brought to Christ through the instrumentality of the Associations.

ROBERT H. WILLIAMS,

Cor. Member for Maryland.

REPORT OF CORRESPONDING MEMBER FOR MASSACHUSETTS.

Whole number of Associations one year since ninety; present number of Associations 107. Two have died during the year. Nineteen new Associations have been organized, most of them prosperous. Total membership, 13,254; financial condition good; fifty-three have reading rooms, thirty, acting on the information obtained at Detroit Convention, hold open-air meetings; seventeen sustain daily prayer meetings; thirty-eight have tri and semi-weekly, and fifty-one have weekly prayer meetings, making a total of fifteen thousand seven hundred and eighty prayer meetings held during the past year. One Association reports, as in the

two previous years, more than an average of *one conversion each day for the year*. This Association has four successful daily prayer meetings. Five Associations publish weekly or monthly papers. The Fall River Association has demonstrated the fact that boys from eight to sixteen years can be reached by this work. They have a Boys' Reading Room, with illustrated papers, where upwards of seventy have been in attendance on a single evening. Your Cor. Member has found the field very large. He has issued several circulars of information and instruction, addressed one hundred and ten public meetings on Christian Association work, and written several hundred letters upon this subject. Most of the Associations observed the day of prayer with *great* results.

The State Convention was held at Worcester, Sept. 20th and 21st; was largely attended and aided by the clergy; 257 delegates in attendance. Fifteen "Christians' Rally Meetings" were addressed by their delegates on their route home in the different towns.

I would say that we in Massachusetts have our success as the result of *hard work*.

L. P. ROWLAND, JR.,

Cor. Member for Massachusetts.

REPORT OF CORRESPONDING MEMBER FOR MICHIGAN.

In Michigan the endeavor has been to promote unity among existing Associations and secure their greater efficiency rather than to hastily multiply organizations.

Several of the Associations in the State have attained a vigor and "occupy" a field of usefulness not surpassed by scores of older Associations. Our first State Convention was held in the City of Marshall, Dec. 1st and 2d, 1868, and was attended by about seventy delegates from fifteen Associations, besides many ministers and laymen from places where no Associations exist. The entire exercises were of the most harmonious and practical character, and among other features was the proposition, which is being carried out, to have the annual meeting of all the Associations in the State at the same time, so as to advertise all the Associations at once on a poster, to last for a year, and to be put up in public places all over the State.

The Convention also recommended a combination among the Associations, in order to obtain the supplies for their reading rooms, in whole or in part, through some one party and thus secure them at a less rate; and we trust that in some way this desire may be realized, as a saving of expense in conducting Associations will greatly aid in their establishment. There have been four new Associations organized this year, namely, at Allegan, Corunna, Hudson and Three Rivers; but there are Associations now in process of organization at several other places, and plans are being matured for an extended organizing trip in the fall. During the year a hymn book has been compiled, which it is believed will meet a long felt want in very many Associations.

SILAS FARMER,

Cor. Member for Michigan.

REPORT OF CORRESPONDING MEMBER FOR NEBRASKA.

Working men in the Young Men's Christian Association in Nebraska are few. The number of Associations known to me are three: Brown-

ville, Fremont and Omaha. The Omaha Y. M. C. A. have completed (this Spring) a neat and commodious building, with Reading room and Library on first floor, Committee-room above; but were compelled (to meet the wants of the people) to borrow \$2,000 to carry out these improvements. The members of the Association are mostly business men. The influence of the organization is excellent. The Association at Fremont maintains stated meetings, but has not as yet secured a hold on the public; they are receiving accessions continually. They had thought of dispensing with some conditions to membership, especially relating to the active list; the rule is, however, that all must be identified with the Church.

Brownville Association has been on the sickly list, partly on account of the officers, and perhaps on account of the community. I am informed by the Secretary that they will yet make a success out of the enterprise. There are hundreds of young men in each of these places who do not love Jesus, who are spending much of their time in saloons and worse dens of vice.

Nebraska has to-day over 500 miles of railroad, along every mile of which there are new communities springing into existence; and the great want seems to be missionary labor. Your familiarity with the whole subject will enable you to see the situation, and your interest in the cause will engage your warmest sympathy. A good colporteur would do much good; and it has latterly become very strongly impressed upon my mind, that the time is not far in the future when the Y. M. C. A. of the U. S. & B. P. will have an hundred active men sowing the seed of Gospel truth. May God bless every effort looking to the salvation of one immortal soul.

Yours, in Christ,

WILLIAM R. BENTLEY.

Cor. Member for Nebraska.

REPORT OF CORRESPONDING MEMBER FOR NEW JERSEY.

The work in New Jersey during the past year has been generally prosperous. Many of the older Associations have renewed their youth, and have increased in strength and usefulness. The Trenton Association, the oldest in the State, has taken an advanced position in the esteem and confidence of the citizens. New rooms, a vigorous organization and a more thorough cultivation of the field, are the main features of its course during the last twelve months. The same may be said of the Newark, Jersey City and Elizabeth Associations. Some of the smaller organizations have been equally prosperous. The Jersey City Association has been the most active and useful. The Newark Association has employed a missionary a part of the year. At Jersey City and Newark monthly papers devoted to the interests of their respective Associations have been published. New Associations have been organized at Burlington, Orange, South Orange, Westfield and Lawrenceville. There are now twenty-four Associations in the State. Two have been discontinued—Passaic and Millville. A State Convention, the second, was held at Trenton, in October of last year. Sixty-four delegates were present, and the occasion was attended with good results to

the Trenton Association and to the work throughout the State. The Convention this year will be held at Jersey City, in October.

Your brother in Christ,

WILLIAM J. CARLTON,
Cor. Member for New Jersey.

REPORT OF CORRESPONDING MEMBER FOR NEW-YORK.

The undersigned Corresponding Member of your Committee for the State of New-York would respectfully report that there are now existing in the State fifty-one Associations, having an aggregate membership of about 18,000. Most of these are in a prosperous condition, actively prosecuting the work before them, and several of them report an encouraging success and numbers of conversions, though no general or extensive work of grace has been enjoyed during the year. A few are embarrassed from want of funds, lukewarmness among members or other causes; but on the whole the showing for the year is good, and we can heartily thank God and take courage.

Thirty-two Associations report that they have reading rooms, twenty nine of which are open to the public daily. Thirty-four Associations sustain weekly prayer meetings, twelve sustain daily prayer meetings. fourteen hold cottage or neighborhood meetings for prayer or preaching in localities apart from their regular gatherings, six have held open air meetings, seven maintain bible classes, five have mission schools under their care, one having six of these in successful operation; four sustain city missionaries, nineteen hold social meetings, ten have literary classes, eight report course of lectures, and probably more have them who have not so reported; two Associations own buildings, including the New-York Association, which is erecting a very handsome and commodious one, and three others have building funds. Six have not reported.

On the 8th, 9th and 10th of September last a Convention of the Associations of New-York State was held at Auburn. Twenty-five Associations were represented, by sixty-four delegates, and the sessions were marked by well sustained interest, practical discussions and the presence of an earnest spirit. The resolutions adopted were of much real value having a direct bearing upon the actual work before the Associations, and the effect produced by the Convention has been visible in increased activity and usefulness throughout the State. While I regret that more has not been accomplished, and especially deplore the fact that I have not been able to do more efficient service myself, I still rejoice that the Master's cause has not gone backward, and look forward with hopeful heart to the promise of the future.

Yours, &c.,

JOHN I. PLATT.
Cor. Member for New-York.

REPORT OF CORRESPONDING MEMBER FOR OHIO.

There are 48 Associations in the State of Ohio, containing a membership of 5,612. 20 of these Associations have reading rooms; the average daily attendance being 611. 4 have Bible classes; average attendance, 114. 9 have daily prayer meetings. 25 have weekly prayer

meetings. 6 have semi-weekly prayer meetings, and 1 has monthly prayer meetings—average attendance, 1,015. 21 have other religious meetings, such as open air, hospital, theatre, &c. 22 have libraries, aggregate number of volumes, 11,942; estimated value, \$13,765. 210 sermons have been preached to young men, and 112 conversions reported. The sum expended by all the Associations during the year, about \$20,000. With but few exceptions quarterly reports have been received regularly from each Association during the year, which keeps the Corresponding Member advised of any changes that may have occurred. Without making any invidious comparisons it may be mentioned that among the most active Associations in the State, are those at Cleveland, Cincinnati, Zanesville, Mansfield, Springfield, Ashtabula, Painesville and Portsmouth.

The Cleveland Association seems to have commenced a new career of usefulness since the meeting of our State Association with them last October, and have been quite successful in raising funds for a building. Some \$12,000 have been subscribed for that purpose by their members alone. The membership seem to be alive, and under the leadership of good men, are actively engaged in missionary work not only in their own city, but in the neighboring towns and villages, where they have assisted in the formation of several new Associations.

The Cincinnati Association has (in addition to its regular work) sustained, during the past two winters, a Christian charity called the "Strangers' Home," where lodgings are provided for the homeless, houseless ones that either by accident or misconduct become perfectly destitute and friendless; and have also inaugurated a course of laymen's institute lectures, which were a success both in attendance and interest manifested. The services of Rev. Dr. Robinson, of Rochester Theological Seminary, New-York, and Rev. Dr. Nelson, of Lane Theological Seminary, Cincinnati, were engaged for the occasion, and were listened to with great profit.

Similar institutes cannot be too strongly recommended to other Associations.

The Ohio State Association met last October at Cleveland; 125 delegates were present, representing 22 Associations, and the meeting was a very pleasant one, long to be remembered by those present.

The next annual meeting will be held at Mansfield, on the 22d, 23d and 24th of October next.

J. H. CHEEVER,

Cor. Member for Ohio.

REPORT OF CORRESPONDING MEMBER FOR SOUTH CAROLINA.

The year past has in its experience disappointed most of the hopes I indulged at its opening. I expected with some confidence that it would be my privilege and pleasure to report an increased number of Associations, an increased vitality in the membership of those already in existence, and an increased interest in our work on the part of those not directly associated with us. None of these expectations have been realized; on the contrary, in each particular, there has been, if possible, a decrease. There are now but three Associations in the State, one at

Charleston, one at Spartanburg, the third at Buena Vista, a small factory village in Greenville district. The Association at Charleston has been passing through a season (protracted) of great adversity. The Association at Spartanburg was organized about four months ago. It is largely composed of the young men connected with Wofford College, a Methodist Institution. As the Professors have taken considerable interest in its firm establishment and continued welfare, its prospects I can report are good. I wrote for a list of officers, &c., but my letter was not responded to. I fear the Buena Vista Association will lose ground, as recently its organizer and very efficient President was removed from the "Church militant" to "the Church triumphant." I cannot say positively, however, as I have not in some time heard aught directly or indirectly of it and its condition.

I can look at the immediate future of the general cause in the State with but little of hope. I labored hard in December last among Christian men from every part of the State. The Spartanburg Association is possibly a result of my efforts. No other fruit has sprung up from the seed sown. Ultimately I trust that our Christian young men will band themselves together for active service and with linked shields will present a solid front to the devil and his votaries; but the time seems to me (perhaps because my faith is weak and far sighted) to be distant. May God grant that, much sooner than my fears allow me to hope, we may rejoice together in the realization of this "consummation devoutly to be wished."

Yours truly,

VIRGIL C. DIBBLE.

Cor. Member for South Carolina.

REPORT OF CORRESPONDING MEMBER FOR VERMONT.

I am conscious that I have done myself an injury in failing to communicate more frequently with you during the last six or eight months in which I have been trying to advance the interest in Young Men's Christian Associations in Vermont. We have not been altogether idle here, though we failed in some respects of accomplishing our full purpose. Twelve new Associations have been formed during the last year, while five have been given up. Our total number is now forty-four, with a membership of 2,500. One hundred and twenty churches are represented in the Vermont Associations. Twenty-five Associations admit ladies as members. About one hundred prayer meetings per week are held by our Y. M. C. A.'s, with an average attendance of twenty-four persons. It is impossible to give the number of conversions resulting from the increased activity inspired by the Associations. A large number are reported. In one town (Pittsford) more than one hundred persons have united with the Congregational, Baptist and Methodist churches during the last year, and the pastors of those churches attribute it to the blessing of God upon the united, earnest efforts of their churches in Association work.

I think the condition of Associations in Vermont should encourage us, yet I know much more ought to have been done. We have now at least \$200 in the hands of the State Executive Committee to be expended for work in this State. Before our next State Convention I hope

many new Associations will be formed, for I think we shall put a man into the field to lecture and arouse a deeper interest in Y. M. C. A. work.

Yours most humbly in Christ,

O. B. DOUGLAS,

Cor. Member for Vermont.

REPORT OF COR. MEMBER FOR THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA.

There are but two Associations of Y. M. C. A. in this State—one at Wheeling, the other at Parkersburg.

From Parkersburg the Secretary writes: "We are now making efforts to resuscitate the energies of the Association. One great barrier in the way is the sectarian feeling among the members of the different churches." A recent revival among the churches of the city, and the addition of many young men to the church, gives increasing hope to the few laborers in that field—and they are working, not without prospect of success for a revival of greater interest in the peculiar work of the Y. M. C. A. On the 10th of this month they held their annual meeting, at which time they will make a special effort to give greater efficiency to their organization—to this end they are praying and working.

At Wheeling the organization has greater vitality. During the year, increasing interest has been taken in the devotional exercises connected with all regular meetings. At times there has been an unusual degree of solemnity, and of freedom in utterance—a disposition to labor, as remembering that it is God that gives the increase, and to walk humbly before Him.

Sermons by the local ministry, lectures, tract distribution, visitation, street preaching, library, open and free reading-room, &c., are all used to further the great work. More thorough organization is being made, and the labor is more systematical. Often the reports of street preaching, visitation of Jail, Poor-house and destitute portions of the city, are attended with incidents gratefully listened to, as showing that the blessing of God rests upon this labor.

Nor do we forget to minister to the necessities of those servants of Christ who have been temporary sojourners, and whose wants have been made known—many such have been taken in, their temporal wants supplied, and helped on their way rejoicing.

Knowing that in due time we shall reap, if we faint not, we purpose still to labor, and to pray, and to wait.

With Christian salutations,

I remain, yours, &c.,

JOHN C. HERVEY,

Cor. Member for West Virginia.

REPORT OF COR. MEMBER FOR WISCONSIN.

I cannot report any great degree of prosperity during the past year. Among our Associations many causes have rendered evil to most of the

more laborers into the vineyard, and, while we lament our sloth and weakness, yet, believing the promises of God, we strive to "go forward," doing what our hands find to do.

WILLIAM ANDERSON,
Cor. Member for Ontario.

REPORT OF CORRESPONDING MEMBER FOR QUEBEC.

During the past year I have written a good many letters, a great deal more outside my district than in ; given a large amount of information, sending suggestions (No. 4) and anything else bearing on the work. I also issued a goodly number of circulars, and furnished a large quantity of reading matter in the shape of tracts, leaflets, small books, &c.

There are only three Associations in the province of Quebec, owing to most of the towns and villages being wholly Roman Catholic and French. These Associations are situated in Montreal, Quebec and New Montreal. I shall also report Kingston, Brockville, Ottawa, Perth.

I would remark that some of the members of the Montreal Association intend making an effort to establish new Associations in the Eastern township, in the Province of Quebec, which we hope may prove successful.

QUEBEC.—This Association is small in numbers. They have reading rooms and a library, open every day, and several of the members are engaged in active labor in various departments of mission work.

MONTREAL has not been as vigorously at work during the past as in previous years, owing in a great measure to the formation of Church Associations, almost every Church having its own Association, and in this way many of the best workers in our Associations have been occupied, rendering it impossible for them to take the same active interest in the general Associations as formerly. My own conviction is, that these Church Associations are getting to be more literary than religious, and I question much whether they have proved to add spiritual strength to the churches organizing them. Notwithstanding these drawbacks we have sustained about the usual number of cottage meetings during the winter, and, in the summer, Bethel services, open air preaching, tract distributing have been vigorously sustained and much good accomplished. The work among young men is not neglected, and several cases of reformation from evil habits, and some few conversions are reported. These encourage those engaged in the work. The rooms continue to be daily visited by large numbers, and our Secretary is thus brought in contact with numbers, and he has been able to aid many in procuring situations and boarding houses, while scarcely a day passes without his being called upon for advice and assistance.

TANNERIES WEST (OR NEW MONTREAL), about two miles from Montreal, the junction of the Grand Trunk Railway for the West. This Association was organized about three months ago by Mr. Brodie, a member of the Montreal Association, and is aided by other young men. Large numbers of emigrants pass this point daily, but are detained some time (often for hours) for refreshments and other necessities. The members of this Association take this opportunity to distribute tracts and talk with these people. The members also distribute tracts through the

village, which is almost exclusively French. Those working believe that much good will result from their labors in this portion of the Master's vineyard. They hope by the winter to be able to open a reading room and form the nucleus of a library.

BROCKVILLE continues on its vigorous way. This Association, formed less than two years ago, has progressed rapidly; they hold cottage meetings, distribute tracts, have good religious weekly and monthly meetings; have a thoroughly and well organized literary meeting, very pleasant rooms, a good library, good, active, energetic officers, who love their work, and altogether the Association is most promising. I have to regret that the ministers, who at its organization thoroughly endorsed it, have recently shown the cold shoulder. The result can only be unfortunate, as unless the pastors and the Association work cordially and heartily together there cannot be success. I hope the fault is not with the young men.

KINGSTON died some time ago, killed by two causes; first, from the want of interest on the part of the young men; secondly, from the decided opposition of the ministers of the city. With few exceptions the ministers seemed determined to oppose the work—some going so far as to speak against the Association from the pulpit.

OTTAWA.—This Association is flourishing and doing a good work. The meetings are well attended. The recent religious awakening in Ottawa and the surrounding country has done much to strengthen the hearts of the brethren and increase their faith. With such vigor and hearty co-operation between pastors and their young men, the result cannot but be satisfactory.

PERTH.—This Association has only been organized about a year; being in a small place, their opportunities for work are limited, but they have been at work, and with their attractive rooms and having a small library, with the best feeling existing between the resident ministers and the members of the Association, the prospect for future usefulness is good.

Yours, fraternally,

T. JAMES CLAXTON.

Cor. Member for Quebec.

FOREIGN.

Report of Mr. James Stokes, Jr.

To the Executive Committee.—In this review of visits to the Associations abroad, it is but just to say, that limited time and other circumstances, prevented as thorough an inspection as could have been desired, so that instead of a critical and comparative report, I offer the hasty impressions of a traveler. Having become well acquainted with the noble work of Associations in our own land, through a connection with the Executive Committee, and having enjoyed the earnest sympathy and fellowship of many dear brethren, in various conventions, I could not but appreciate the honor conferred by the commission to speak in your name to the As-

sociations of the Old World, and deem it a slight return, to bring back their greeting to you.

Offering no apologies for the necessarily personal style of this communication, I would report as follows:

The first visit made was to the Central French Association in Paris, which has its location in Rue de l'Abbaye. There I found a reading-class, and other rooms, besides the private apartments of the Secretary. From the latter I received a most cordial and kindly welcome, especially as I represented the American brethren. He proffered his attention in my behalf, but I had only a few moments to converse with him, and my limited stay in the city prevented an acceptance of his kindness. The next opportunity for seeing an association was at Nice, in the South of France. Here, I attended the Association in connection with Rev. Leon PILAT's Church—a man of note in the Free Church of France. Although having but some dozen members, and existing only as a Bible class and prayer meeting, still, I was pleased to meet even a few Christian young men in this gay and fashionable resort, to receive their cordial welcome, and encourage and surprise them with an account of our own practical, aggressive forms of labor. The only other French Association visited in France, was that at Strasburg. This Society (or Union, as they are called in France,) does not seem to be in connection with the general organization, in France (judging from the reports printed), but from one of its officers I learned, that it had some 20 members, and though at the time feeble, it kept up a Bible class, prayer meetings, and some occasional lectures, and that its rooms were in the building occupied by the Evangelical Alliance. These I did not have an opportunity of visiting. Besides this French Association, there was a German organization in Strasburg. The society which claimed my chief interest in France, was the new Anglo-American Association, recently started in Paris, and which I consider one of the most important religious enterprises ever commenced in Europe, not only on account of the good effects it will have upon the youth of our own land in that city, but also for the influence it will probably have upon all the Unions of France and the Continent. It should have the full sympathy and aid of all Americans, especially those going to Paris.

Without referring to the kind friends, whose hearty welcome and Christian sympathy can never be forgotten, it may be of interest to say a word of the history, organization and general work of the Unions of France. As far as I can learn, they are constructed on the same general basis as are most of the Associations in Great Britain: (the basis adopted by our Associations at the Albany Convention.) And this clearly indicates, that the active membership at least, should consist of Christians only. Indeed, the Unions were largely promoted, if not first started, by that veteran worker, George Williams, of the London Association, who was aided in his early labors, by Pasteur Paul Cook, of Nimes, and others. For all the Associations there is one Central Council, and this is located at Nimes for the present. The Associations are also divided into groups, each again with its General Council or Committee, and each Association has also a Board or Committee. These groups have re-unions of their own, occurring at least once in the year, and independent of any general Convention. The duties of the Councils and Committees, are much the same as those of the Corresponding Members and the Executive Committee with us. As for the work done, the Paris Association and its branches in the "Group

de la Seine" will illustrate. The Association (already referred to, in Rue de l'Abbaye,) was founded in 1852, and is governed by a committee of nine members. Its total membership, active and honorary, is 79. Its total, since foundation, 310; the average attendance at its meetings, 35. The library has 900 volumes. There are four re-unions each week, for conference, the study of German and French, and one each month for the general gathering of the members. A work of outside evangelization is carried on, public meetings take place on Sabbath evenings—at times large conferences of the friends of the work are gathered; besides all these, there is a well attended Bible class. The fact that the membership of this Association is composed, for the most part, of strangers, who stay but a short time in the city, will easily explain the small numbers given.

The Paris Association will thus serve as a type of the others of the country. As, with us, each Association varies in its work and way of working, so, many of the French Unions add to the labors mentioned, visitation of the sick, distribution of tracts, prayer meetings, &c. Though, for obvious reasons, the work cannot be as aggressive as with us, still the Christian young men of France are doing a great and good work for their fellows, and aiding to stop the tide of infidelity and rationalism, which threatens to overthrow the foundations of society itself. In Italy there are Associations put down on the list, (kindly furnished by Mr. Shipton, of London,) for the cities of Turin, Milan, Genoa, Naples and Florence. I had no opportunity of looking at those in the two first-named places. In Genoa, stopping but one day, I made inquiries, but was unable to find the Association. Of course I could expect to find no Association in Rome. At Naples I had the pleasure of making the acquaintance of Rev. Mr. Buscarlet, (pastor of the Scotch Church.) From him I learned that the Association (composed chiefly of foreigners), had become extinct, but that he hoped it might again be revived. Asking me to occupy one of the prayer-meeting evenings, in a description of our work, I did so, and fully explained our manner of dividing labor among all the Committees, composed of the members of the Association.

Mr. B. joined with me in thinking that a good impulse and impression was given, and promised to try and follow it up, and start if possible a new Association this season. He will also translate into French and Italian, the "Suggestions" issued by the Executive Committee, and the little pocket card, "Look to Jesus." On my return to Europe, some months later, I visited Venice and Florence. At the former place there is a great and good evangelical work in progress; but I did not hear of any Association as yet started. In Florence I saw Rev. Dr. Vannest, and, by appointment, several other Christian people. To these I urged the necessity of an Association in the capital of Italy. But though the suggestion was fully appreciated, it was thought that means could not be obtained for carrying on this and the other religious enterprises already under way. The Association mentioned as existing here, proved to be an organization among the Swiss teachers in the Evangelical Schools. I shall look for most effort in behalf of Associations in Naples. It is hard at this distance to appreciate the difficulties to be overcome in starting such enterprises in Italy.

The Association next on the list, was at Alexandria, in Egypt. Passing through this city, I made inquiries of missionaries at Cairo, but they, having recently come to the field, did not know of any such organ-

izations. Strangely enough, some months later, I providentially met a Syrian Christian, in Switzerland, who told me of a native Christian Association in Cairo; that they had a reading room, Bible class, sermons from himself and brothers, and prayer meetings; of course, the usual coffee and pipes of the East. At Alexandria, on my return, I met, by appointment, the Secretary of the late Association. This, he said, had been broken up at the time the cholera last visited the city. It was composed mainly of foreigners, employees and transient residents. I explained the work in America, urged the importance of a revival of the old society in such a prominent commercial centre, and promised correspondence and documents. I came in contact with no actual Association in Syria, the one put down for Beyrout being a native missionary society among the young converts. In Smyrna I met the Secretary and one or two members of the Christian Association, which here does its work as a Bible class and prayer meeting among the Christian young men. As before, I explained the work of our societies at home, and proposed a reading-room and other agencies. This it was thought would provoke the Greek Church to assail them, and he feared they were not far enough advanced for this step. I left, with the promise of correspondence.

In Athens I conversed with Rev. Dr. Jonas King, the veteran missionary, and Rev. Mr. Kalopathakes (who was educated in the Union Theological Seminary in N. Y.), director of the Evangelical Press and editor of the *Star of the East*. He entered with interest into the plan for an Association, and immediately spoke to some young men about the matter. Leaving before anything definite was accomplished, I can but hope some action will be taken, resulting in much good for the young men of that city.

An Association is put down for Constantinople, but I heard of none except in the way of a missionary society, somewhat similar to that at Beyrout, or the Committee of Visitation connected with the Foreign Chapel. Dr. Isaac G. Bliss and others promised an interest in the starting of one, and Dr. B. hoped it might have rooms in the new Bible House, which they are expecting soon to build.

Passing through Vienna, on my return trip, I did not find an opportunity to look up the Association marked down for that city. Crossing Italy and coming into Switzerland, I had a very pleasant interview with Max'n Perot, a prominent worker in the Geneva Association, and also the general conferences of the European Associations. I met also the President of the (French) Geneva Society, Mr. Graff, with whom I had some interesting talks in reference to the work. I should not forget to mention that I visited the rooms of the Union, and found library, reading and class rooms, and that there was also a German Association, having 22 active members; the French has 68 active and 48 honorary.

Returning to Switzerland, after a short absence, I visited Lausanne, and there made the acquaintance of Mr. Lehmann, Secretary of the Association, who told me much of the work in Switzerland, and particularly in Lausanne, which will serve as a sample of the other Swiss Unions. But I will refer for particulars to his interesting letter, already printed in the *Quarterly*, and only say, that the French-speaking organizations have their Central Executive Committee at Lausanne, and the Germans theirs at Zurich. At both places a small periodical is published in the interests of the Associations.

Had time and opportunity permitted, I should have seen some of the associations in Belgium and Holland—as it was I could only inquire after the Associations in Brussels, which I have reason to think, though small, are active.

Of Associations in Great Britain and Ireland, and their work, it seems almost unnecessary to speak in detail, they are so well known to many of the readers of the *Quarterly*. I should, however, do injustice to my feelings, did I not take this opportunity to mention the sincere, kindly and earnest Christian welcome, everywhere extended to your representative, in his intercourse with these organizations and the dear brethren who labor in them. And in addition it may be said, that not only do the English nation at large wish to see our great and growing land, to understand it politically, and to become in every way more closely united with us; but the Christian people desire every information as to the new methods of Christian effort introduced among us.

I visited but two of the Associations in England, viz., London and Liverpool. The parent society in London, and the first started in England, acts by common consent as a centre of correspondence and publication (through its *Quarterly*). It has, with its branches, 3,734 members. Its chief agencies may be stated as Bible and educational classes, devotional meetings, tract distribution, library and lectures. The membership is based on the sure foundation already referred to. The main rooms are in the Association building in Aldersgate street. They contain library, class, lecture, reading and coffee rooms. Connected with the main Association there are some ten branches in various parts of London.

The limits of this report will but allow the mention of pleasant visits to the Associations of Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dublin and Liverpool. The agencies here employed are much the same as those of the London Association, with the variations we are accustomed to see in our own cities and towns. Everywhere was experienced the same kind reception, and in all I was happy to note an apparently new infusion of vigor and energy. The American Associations have aided somewhat I think in producing this good effect abroad. We have special reasons also to rejoice with the dear brethren of Dublin, for I was told that they dated the new birth of their Association from the "Day of Prayer" observed by them, at the request of the Montreal Convention. I have not spoken of the Associations of Germany; these I did not visit, but for particulars I must refer to an interesting letter received since my return. (*See below.*)

In closing this report, I would offer the following general observations, applying especially to the Continental Associations which were visited. Many exist as mere Bible classes or praying circles, and though not engaged in as active and aggressive work as with us, seemingly conserving rather than dispersing, yet most, if not all, are on the only true basis of active membership, viz., on membership in evangelical churches. We must also remember that their operations are cramped and not fully appreciated, on account of the want of clerical and public sympathy, and the fact that the modes of thought and state of society differ abroad so much from those we have at home. They have not our enlightened public sentiment to second their efforts. No member of our Association should go abroad without seeing these Unions and Associations. The visitor himself and the documents he may bring will be most acceptable;

for American ideas of all kinds are permeating Europe, and are most eagerly and kindly received, and everywhere (as might be fully illustrated) her people are interested in our Christian Associations. To account further for the difference between our work and that abroad, it may be remarked—and this applies to Great Britain and Ireland especially—that the management and labor is too much condensed in the hands of a few; a board and secretary, in many cases, planning and doing all the work, and not, as with us, a board to devise and supply the means, and the whole Association divided into voluntary committees, to execute it. Perhaps in our democratic eyes there would also appear too much reverence for precedent, antiquity and leading men. But to offset all this, they make full use of the social element in their tea meetings, Bible classes, &c.; their lectures too are solid and instructive, and, above all, their spiritual work seems to be an earnest, sincere and thorough one; for they keep constantly in view what should be the great aim of all our organizations—conversions to Christ.

As a summary of the whole work of your representative, I would report that documents of all kinds, (so far as facilities for transporting them permitted), were distributed in all the places visited. Arrangements were made for direct correspondence with some thirteen different countries and some thirty different persons; in all, some one hundred visits were made and many letters written in behalf of our noble work. Hoping that this report will meet your approval, and above all, praying that what has been done may be owned and blest of our common Master, I am yours in Christian bonds, .

JAMES STOKES, Jr.

GERMANY.

In reply to Mr. Stokes' request, an account of the Association work in Germany has been prepared by Mr. Chr. Klug, of Elberfeld. It gives us pleasure to be able to present so clear and complete an account of the work in that part of the world. This paper is as follows:

"The 'Rhenish Westphalian Union' was formed in the year 1848, at a time in which all bondages of social and religious life began to get loose among most of the youth. A few Associations, which then were already in existence, held a meeting at Elberfeld, under the presidency of the Rev. Dürselen, in Ronsdorf, and expressed the wish to form a closer union, for combating with strengthened power, against the destructions of the time, and so save such young men for Christ as would still hear of His inviting voice. The Union took the above-mentioned name, and displayed its banner for Christ. Its voice was not overborne, and many Associations were formed and connected with the Union. A Central Committee was chosen and a paper given out, both of which are still in existence. After some years, the Union had already risen to sixty, eighty, a hundred Associations, and the agency of the work of Associations was to be seen in many places. Most of our Associations are small; they have 20, 30, 40, 50 or 100 members, but some have grown to two or three hundred. The members are, in general, mechanics or people of the working class, but there are other Associations with only young tradesmen. All these Associations confess themselves openly for Christ, and have had the most

encouraging results in their work. Many young men who have been members of our Association, have entered a missionary career, and are now working, for the Lord, in America, in Egypt, and in many other countries.

"Our Associations work for saving souls for Christ, but they are not merely devotional meetings, but do all that is in their power to educate their members for their daily calling, and are in this respect, too, of great benefit. In many Associations instruction is given in English, French, German, Elementary branches, Singing and Trumpet blowing. At the time the cholera was in our country, many Associations did much good in relieving the sick; and during the German war, many young men went forth to the battle-field to take care of the wounded soldiers. It is curious that of all the young men of our Union, who were fighting in the Prussian army, not one was killed.

"In connection with our Young Men's Christian Associations a great number of better lodging houses for young men, called 'Herberge zur Heimath,' and many 'Union houses' have been erected, in which the traveling journeymen can find good quarters and also a Christian home. Such houses are frequently used for all sorts of meetings of other Christian Associations, and become more and more a 'Home' for all Christians—and their agency in the work of public welfare is evident.

"The Central Committee of our Union has fifteen members, and its sessions are held at Elberfeld. A young theologian has acted till now as its superior, but at the present moment this place is vacant. The Union is divided into several circles, and each circle has its special president, secretary and treasurer. Every year a General Assembly of the deputies of all Associations takes place at Elberfeld; and the following day we celebrate the anniversary of the Union, on which occasion in general 1,000 or 1,200 young men are gathered.

"Our paper is printed in about 1,000 copies, and will next year be given out every fortnight.

"Besides the 'Rhenish Westphalian Union,' there exist two other Unions in Germany. The one is called the Eastern Union, with its central place, Berlin. It has 120 to 130 Associations, which are scattered over five Prussian provinces. The other Union is in the south of Germany. It contains, perhaps, 40 to 50 Associations. Besides these Unions, there are still many other Associations in Germany, without closer connections.

"In general we can say, the Lord has blessed our work more than we could have expected at any time. Many young men have found their Saviour through the agency of our Associations, and a great deal of good has come forth from our work.

THE OBJECTS, WORKING, AND PRESENT POSITION OF THE CONFEDERATED YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

BY WM. EDWYN SHIPTON, ESQ.

(Being a Paper read at the Dublin Conference, September, 1868.)

I venture to assume that it is the desire of Christian society in England, as elsewhere, that our young men should, by God's grace and

blessing, become the strength of the nation, and active agents in every work of mercy and goodness. I also venture to think that Christian society is fully aware that young men, if left to themselves, will be, what many of them now are, irreligious if not immoral; and, if immoral, dangerous to the social weal, and in peril of a danger to themselves which it is the special duty of Christian society to seek to avert.

Young men form a class by themselves. Their studies, occupations, recreations, must for the most part be pursued apart from the companionships and influences of domestic life, and from the beneficial effects of association with men of larger experience and of diverse training. The things which separate them become the occasions of special temptation to them, over and above the temptations and difficulties peculiar to their age. In all communities where young men dwell together in large numbers in one place—Universities, Barracks, large houses of business, and in great cities, where many young men are associated for commercial purposes, their dangers and difficulties are greatly augmented. It is of course true that in all such cases there is as much scope for the influences by which young men may be served and saved as for those which operate to their disadvantage. Yet who that knows the facts, does not see that the evil which is attractive, though it ruins, secures more votaries than the good; which, while it seeks to save, does so by methods against which all the pride of human nature rebels, and which the carnal mind (the self-loving, self-pleasing, fleshly will) resists.

Some knowledge of the circumstances and habits of young men, and experience gained by many years of labor amongst them, enables me to state that while in this, as in every other class of society, the number of the good has increased, and good efforts have been multiplied amongst them, the proportion of good to the bad is unaltered; the tares have grown with the wheat, and the servants of the devil sow on, in a congenial soil, the seed which springs up in plants of evil growth and still more evil influence.

In connection with this subject, the great increase of the population generally, and the remarkable development of those forms of commercial enterprise in which the services of young men are required, have been attended by a great addition to the facilities for evil in the multiplication of places of resort for amusement, which however cheaply advertised, are always expensive, are very often doubtful in character, and in some cases are full of wickedness, tending only to evil, and that continually. Minor theatres, and all theatres, casinos, music-halls, concerts at public houses, and equestrian entertainments (infested as they generally are with women of bad character), and betting clubs are all on the increase, and all becoming increasingly mischievous.

If the truth must be told, and an old friend, and still an uncompromising supporter of the Early Closing movement, may be permitted to tell it, the use which some young men are making of the privileges afforded by the reduction of the hours of business, goes very far to jeopardize that boon for the prudent and godly men who would turn it to good account.

The need, therefore, which, in 1844, called the Young Men's Christian Association into existence in London, still remains there and in all large towns. That need arose out of the class position of young men, the special disadvantages, the peculiar and great temptations, and the diffi-

culty, on all these grounds, of reaching them by any of the ordinary agencies of the Christian Church, or any other then existing mission scheme.

I have been requested to speak of the Young Men's Christian Associations; and representing that in London, I may be permitted to illustrate the general subject by reference to its work, its agents and its agencies. Its work certainly is not to form a new Christian community. It is a union of young men—members of all churches which hold the Head, Christ Jesus, our Lord—to seek, by their personal example, and their testimony to the grace of God as experienced by themselves, the conversion of their unbelieving companions. It seeks to win such unconverted young men to the Saviour, then to add them to the fellowship of the churches which witness for His truth in the world. It admits none to its fellowship who do not understand this aim, and who do not afford evidence of such spiritual experience and qualifications as prove their adaptation to this particular work, and none who, without good reason, are not already in communion with some section of Christ's Church. Its membership is exclusive only in the sense of being discriminative. All young men are not suited for its membership by character; all believing men are not suited for it by gifts. Yet it has probably now as many as 12,000 young men acting as missionaries for Christ in the houses of business in London and other towns of Great Britain and Ireland.

These young men are not by this work separated from other good works. Being members of churches, they are all under the direction of their churches and pastors as to the forms of service in which they should engage. They are to be found in Sabbath schools, ragged schools, visiting-societies, tract distributions, and many other departments of Christian labor.

A recent investigation in London showed that not ten per cent. of the members are employed in the direction of the agencies peculiar to the Association, and of these a large proportion were found to be also among the most active workers in other societies. The necessity for this statement arises from the repetition of the oft-refuted complaint that the Young Men's Christian Association takes men away from other agencies. It takes none. It does claim the special services of some of these reclaimed from the world and sin by God's blessing, on its own agencies; but it gives ninety to the general cause of the Church for every ten whom it keeps and employs to win others from evil to good, from Satan to Christ; and if the churches complain of this, they are as sinful as short-sighted.

A consideration of the agencies of the Association will illustrate this. Twenty-four years ago, when nothing was done for young men outside the churches, and very little in them, the Association determined to form Bible classes—to gather them together on Sunday afternoons for the study of God's word. Those were invited who were wont to go to seek their pleasure on the Lord's day. They came—were instructed, and many converted. From time to time others, such as they once were, came and filled their places in the Bible class; and to-day, as at the first, the Association goes out into the streets of London with its invitations, compelling men to come in.

Who is robbed? the churches? These men never cared to go to churches. Sunday schools! They require teaching; they would be worse than useless as teachers. Ragged-schools? Many of them have

been subjects of the sins which lead to poverty, destitution, and crime, and, as we found them, they could only illustrate these evils—could not remedy them.

But who gains? Everybody but the Association. All its efforts necessitate a constant expenditure of time, thought, labor, anxiety, money, influence, none of which can return to itself, for it exists only as the auxiliary of the churches; and when its work is done, or when the churches themselves assume it directly, then the Association should be, must in all fidelity be, re-absorbed into its source.

But even now the churches gain in the augmentation of their numbers, the addition to their fellowship of men of vigor, trained in the conduct of affairs, concerned in all that is passing in life, men of diligence, of intelligence, and power.

Every form of missionary enterprise gains. Our great missionary institutions, which have secured from the labors of the Association agents for their blessed work now laboring in every quarter of the globe;* the Sunday-schools, which are supplied with teachers, always gladly received, but seldom thankfully acknowledged; the Ragged-schools, some of which are exclusively, and many very largely, furnished with teachers—fruits of the labors of the Associations. And yet more, society at large gains—in the repression of evil, in the reclamation of offenders, in the protection and encouragement of the virtuous and well-disposed, in the training of agents for usefulness, in the augmentation of the number of those who become, by virtue, by prudence, by the results of honorable industry, the safeguards and ornaments of a Christian state.

I hope I have justified the claim of our Associations to a missionary character; yet it remains to be shown how this can consist with such fidelity to the claims of the Churches and their work, as I have asserted. The simple explanation is, that the Associations pledge their members to the exercise of their special mission to young men *in the sphere of their daily calling*. The young men who will not go to church to hear of Christ, have the message of mercy brought to them in the shop, the warehouse, or the office. Those who repudiate the evidences of Divine working in the Church,

“In souls renewed and sins forgiven,”

have testimony brought before their own eyes, in the places of their daily resort, that the Gospel has power to change the sinner to the saint, the selfish and the vile to the loving, and pure, and good; and this exhibition of godliness comes in the form most likely to secure attention, when it is presented in the diligence, sobriety, meekness, gentleness and good-will of men who are of necessity subjected to the most rigid scrutiny, and whose only hope of influence depends upon their consistency and practical kindness.

“Watched by the world's malignant eye
Who load us with reproach and shame;
As servants of the Lord Most High,
As jealous for His glorious name,
We ought in all His paths to move
With holy fear and humble love.”

So living, the members do the work of the Associations; so commending religion, they become the men to whom, in distress or difficulty,

*See speech of Rev. Thos. Green, in “Report of Conference on Missions held in Liverpool.”

the most ungodly will come for help and sympathy, and the most inveterate opponents of the Bible will seek for advice. This has been so in numberless instances; and every year's experience proves the continued value of such a form of missionary effort.

But our Associations are not only missionary, but Scriptural. They acknowledge the authority of the Divine Word, and they seek to use it as the guide of all their enterprises. In the gatherings of the members for prayer at the devotional meetings, "this word" is presented continually to their attention, and in the Bible classes it is the basis of all teaching and counsel.

Dare I venture to add, that because Scriptural, and in order to be missionary, our Associations are Catholic and unsectarian in their character.

Under the direction of Holy Scripture they concern themselves with the fact, that men, by nature born in sin and children of wrath, are in danger of "destruction from the presence of God," and that because of this "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners."

Nothing is so universal as the fact of sin. Blessed be God that He designs to be universal, also, in the proclamation of His mercy! But to-day the extent of the evil is greater than the knowledge and application of the remedy; and it behooves all who have proved its value to extend its influence, both for the honor of the great Physician, and the relief of sin-stricken and suffering humanity.

Our Associations have, from the first, comprehended men of all evangelical denominations; and not a few of the pastors holding influential, and some foremost places in the Established and other Churches of our country, have had their early training for usefulness in this direct mission of the Young Men's Christian Associations. As I am very sure that no one section of the Christian Church could, of itself, do the Lord's work in the world, so I am convinced that no one denomination of Christians can undertake this mission to young men generally. I do not undervalue the work of Young Men's Societies in connection with particular denominations. They have their uses in conserving the allegiance, assisting the studies, directing the Godly enterprises of young men who are already adherents of a particular ecclesiastical community; but that which is their value in such cases, makes them useless as regards the great outlying mass of young men who are without the Church and beyond its reach. To such young men it would be idle to talk of the claims of a sect, or the merits of a system of Theology. They need to learn the first principles of the doctrine of Christ. Nay, they need first of all to "know Christ;" and the great aim of those who value their souls must be to convey to them this knowledge, which is "life eternal."

I have spoken incidentally of the methods of service generally adopted; but in such work all methods serve. The young man in sickness may receive sympathy, and this may open his heart to listen to words of godly counsel. The youth who has strayed from the paths of rectitude and lost situation and character, may be cared for, assisted to find fresh work, and won to repentance. The stranger may be brought by a friendly invitation to attend the Bible Class, and so led to share in the general protection of our rooms. The sturdy sinner may be met with reproof or

remonstrance at the very moment when warning must be heard; and the sceptic or the opposer of religion, may be silenced by the simple testimony borne by a man whom he knows and can trust, to a proved and realized salvation. I speak of these as of means, the blessed use of which could be abundantly illustrated.

But the best proof of utility is ascertained results. In every spiritual work these can only be dealt with on the outside. It belongs to the Lord to give blessings as it pleaseth Him, and to afford the tokens of His approval in the form and manner and measure of His sovereign wisdom. Extension and increase may, however, be taken as among the proofs of utility, and that these have been vouchsafed to the Associations is shown by the following statistics, which present the approximate position of the Associations on 1st January, 1868 :

<i>Associations.</i>		<i>Members.</i>	<i>Associations.</i>		<i>Members.</i>
England and Wales.....	101	11,917	France.....	53	804
Scotland.....	47	3,098	North Germany.....	99	3,004
Ireland.....	10	817	Rhenish Westphalia.....	130	4,160
British Colonies.....	13	223	French Switzerland.....	57	865
Holland.....	73	1,434	North America*.....	142	32,142
Belgium.....	11	167			
Total.....				736	58,430

Besides, there are in Wurtemberg and Germany, 43; German Switzerland, 38; Italy, 5; Mediterranean, 5; North America, 100—191 Associations from which no returns in detail have been received; and in course of formation in England and Wales, 20; Holland, 30.

At one period in the history of the London Association about one-half of the members ascribed to the labors of the Association, the knowledge of religious truth, and their conversion to God. It would not be possible, if it were desirable, to sustain such forms of computation. It may be fairly stated, however, that all experience has shown, and nowhere more than in your Association in Dublin, that where the souls of young men are cared for, where the methods employed are those of Christian testimony and of Scriptural instruction, and where Christ and not the Church, salvation not a sect, have been set before young men, they have gladly attended the meetings of the Association, and the Lord has given testimony to the word of His grace.

The strength of the Association in London, under God's gracious blessing, has been proved by experience to consist in the Christian conditions of its membership, in the catholicity of its spirit, in its protective arrangements for virtuous and well-disposed young men, in its missionary efforts for the reclamation of those yet out of the way, and not least of all, in its fidelity to the churches, and its honor of the ministries and ordinances which God Himself has appointed in the church. As we have found it in London, as we have seen it to prosper elsewhere, so we commend it to your attention and to the prayers and sympathies of all saints.

I have spoken, however, only of what Young Men's Christian Associations seek to do for young men. I have not reminded you, as I might have done, of what these young men may be called to do for yourselves and your churches in the coming time.

* Our readers will observe that the figures relating to North America are taken from the Report of the Montreal Convention. There are now 659 Associations, with a membership estimated at 20,000.

All God's great missionary agents have been called as young men: Abraham, Moses, Joshua, Samuel, David, and Daniel may serve for examples from the history of the early church; but the student of Christian history will not forget that the foremost agents in the proclamation of the Gospel have been young men; and the fact is made more impressive by the circumstances under which they themselves obtained a knowledge of salvation. Saul of Tarsus needed to learn "the way of peace" from old Ananias; but Ananias could not have done Paul's work among the Gentiles. Luther had need of Staupitz to teach him to cast his burden on the Lord, and to appropriate, as personal to himself, "the forgiveness of sins," in which he was wont to declare his belief; but Staupitz lived and died a monk in the communion of Rome, while Luther, rejoicing in the liberty of the sons of God, fought the battle of our spiritual freedom, and restored the Scriptures of truth to their pre-eminent authority in the church of God. Wesley's "long night of legal years" might have been indefinitely prolonged but for the simple evangelism of Peter Boehler; but the worthy Moravian missionary who could bring consolation to the burdened heart of the young clergyman, could not have done Wesley's work of revival and reformation in England.

But Paul and Luther, and Wesley are but the names of a history whose lessons seem fast fading from the memory of the Church. Do we need no more preachers to the Gentiles, no more reformers, nor any further revival? Never did we need them more. And whence are we to obtain them? If the story of God's dealings with the Church teaches anything, it teaches that they must come from the young men for whom we ask your sympathy and care.

Come they whence they may, our duty is clear. God has given us this work to do, and has blessed us in the doing beyond all our hope; how much beyond our effort and deserving we humbly own to the glory of His grace. Be it ours to pursue it in the future with more vigor and zeal, with more humility and love.

A few brief sentences or exhortation must bring me to my conclusion.

BE VERY FIRM TO YOUR PRINCIPLES. This is a day of compromise, but there can be no compromise here. Real sin and a real devil, can only be met by the real salvation of a real Christ—the Christ of our Bible.

BE VERY LOYAL TO ALL YOUR COLLEAGUES IN THIS WORK. Think the best of them, make the most of them, and, at the worst, pray much for them ere you fail of charity or good will.

BE VERY TENDER TO THE SOULS YOU SEEK TO SAVE. "The Lord is very pitiful." When he himself ministered on earth, he brake not the bruised reed, nor quenched the smoking flax; and this example is followed by all whom He calls to His service. The sainted M'Cheyne, of Dundee, when once compelled by illness to leave his people in charge of a brother Minister, after having completed all arrangements, given him needful instructions, and bidden him farewell, came back again to the door and said with the pleasing earnestness of one who knew the sorrows and sufferings of sinners as well as their guiltiness, what I have ventured to repeat to you, "Be very tender with these poor souls." Ah! Brethren, how much they need; how little they can bear.

BE CHRISTLIKE! And so to be, be "Gentle unto all men; * * * in meekness instructing them that oppose themselves; if God, peradventure, will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth."

REVIEW OF THE FRENCH ASSOCIATIONS AND THEIR WORK.

BY MONS. J. ED. BARME, OF PARIS.

(Presented at the Dublin Conference.)

GENTLEMEN AND DEAR BRETHREN,—I must express the happiness I feel in being amongst you. The distance that separates us could never be a bar to our union in heart, for our prayers ascend together to the throne of God ; but the Lord brings to us new encouragements, and suggests more earnest thoughts of prayer when he permits us thus to meet.

I bring you the salutations of the Young Men's Christian Associations of France ; and, since I have the honor to represent them, I will endeavor to give some details of their operations.

I ought, perhaps, to offer a few preliminary observations, in order that you may understand the circumstances under which our Associations were established.

France, as you know, has forty millions of inhabitants, of whom two millions only are Protestants. This is the result of the persecutions our forefathers suffered during the last century ; yet even this number should fill us with gratitude to God, when we remember that a hundred years ago the French Reformed Christians were, in fact, often obliged to flee and to brave a thousand risks, in order to escape imprisonment for life or banishment from their native land.

By the kindness of the Lord times of tolerance have succeeded ; it is now some time since our rights were restored and our places of worship rebuilt, yet down to the present very many difficulties have disturbed our churches, and the drying wind of Rationalism has often sorely tried them.

It will not, then, surprise you to learn that the "Christian Unions"* of our country were established here and there only among isolated churches, and that in few places could a sufficient number of pious young men be found to lay the foundations of lasting Associations. In every case, however, where young and fervent hearts have met together the "union" work has been undertaken with enthusiasm ; and when, in 1852, our first Associations were founded, their members displayed the greatest activity, in spite of the isolated position of many of them.

This state of things, however, it was feared, might peril the success and extension of our Society. The Christian men who founded those Associations understood this, and felt the necessity of binding together all branches of our work ; and this occupied their chief attention in the organization of the General Union of France as it now exists. This General Union is made up of about sixty Associations, nearly all of which are formed into groups of nine, according as the Associations are situated in proximity to one another ; those, however, that are at too great a distance to be included in any of the groups are yet in communication with the others, by means of correspondence, and come under the denomination of "isolated Unions." When an isolated union is happy enough to see new ones established in its neighborhood, they are invited to form together a new group. Each group is presided over by a committee, which summons two or three times a year the Associations belonging to

* Les Unions Chretiennes de Jeunes Gens.

its circuit to meet in the most central town. All the Associations of the group should be represented there and send a report of their condition.

The nine groups are united by a central committee of three members, which is placed at the head of the Association, receives all communications, and publishes them in the Bulletin or journal of correspondence which is under its direction.

Thus our Associations are bound together by the groups, and the groups by the central committee, periodical meetings and the fraternal journal of correspondence giving all the members means of frequent intercourse.

Such is our organization. We believe it good and adapted to our wants; but, gentlemen, the best organization is of itself insufficient to insure prosperity. It arranges and gathers together the elements of life, but it cannot create them; let us then consider the inner working of the French Unions to see if life be there.

But first, brethren, let us not hesitate to affirm that, through God's goodness, every Union has zealous members who attend the meetings regularly, and join in them with fervent prayer and loving exhortations, without which our Associations could not exist.

Yes, gentlemen, there are in France young men who value our societies, and who believe them destined to accomplish very much good; they feel the necessity of gathering young men together around the Word of God; they know that without that Word there is only a world full of infidelity and corruption; they understand that the Church's future depends upon the character and disposition of the present generation. If that generation cares only for perishable wealth and earthly joys it can furnish to the future churches only members without faith, without strength or desire to act, and incapable of working for the salvation of souls. Those who are convinced of these truths are resolved to wrestle energetically to establish and strengthen our Associations; but we must own that such devoted members are few and not sufficiently assisted.

We must testify also, with some unensiness, that the young men of our Churches do not come in as great numbers as we desire; yet to the future we look forward in hope. Our members will ever bear in mind their successors. Time can never take away from their hearts the ardent love they have for the work, but they may be prevented from continuing it by their presence and their personal efforts. They may be placed in other circumstances; become heads of families, or called upon to sustain the Churches in other positions, and then will seek the privilege of being written on the list of our "Honorary Members." Other and younger friends then succeed them, and thus our Associations are maintained.

All our Unions must have old and young members. Young members are taught by the example of their elders, and in time learn to discharge almost involuntarily, the duties which they fulfilled. They perform these duties till, in turn becoming older, they gradually resign them to their successors, and thus the work is regularly carried on, and its success, in the future, certain.

One great difficulty presents itself here. The young men having just completed their course of religious instruction in the Sunday schools, are often then too young to become proper members of our Unions; the subjects treated are above their comprehension, and, besides, our meetings being generally held in the evening they cannot always be present. It is,

then, after some time only that we can hope to see them frequent our halls, and often that short interval suffices for them to lose, in a measure, their first ardent faith, so that they will not come at all.

This subject is worth the serious attention of the friends interested in our operations in France, for it certainly, in a considerable degree, concerns the future.

Let us see now what are the motive-powers in our Unions. We have always the members' meetings, the Bible class, the Prayer meetings, and in some of them, libraries and reading rooms, singing schools, soirées, and occasional lectures.

At our Bible class, or edification meetings, as we call them, the time is occupied with prayer, hymns, and conversation upon God's Word. In some Unions the subjects are indicated in advance upon a printed list, including the verses of Scripture, where they are to be found and the times of meeting.

Young men, strangers to our work and to our faith, are invited there: few, alas! are pleased by our meditations; they are too serious for them, and we scarcely know the secret of finding the way to their hearts.

Members' meetings are composed only of those who have signed our roll and conformed to our standard of membership. With regard to the requirements of the latter, the most important are as follows:—To look to Christ as our only Lord, Saviour and God, to regard the Holy Scripture as divinely inspired, and to feel impressed by the Holy Spirit to exert ourselves to advance the kingdom of God.

In the special re-union of the members much familiarity generally abounds: we discuss practically all the subjects which concern our Unions, and study together verses of the Bible which contain some particular difficulty.

The prayer meetings are entirely for prayer; they are indispensable for the life of our Unions. We had one last Sunday on behalf of all the French Unions. Let us say, however, that, unfortunately, these seasons of prayer are not numerous enough in our country. The members of our Unions prefer to pray in private. It is because our number is small, for it is difficult to multiply re-unions, which must always be sustained by the same members. Nearly all our Unions have libraries, large or small. Few only have reading-rooms, but these cannot be supported but by a large Union, and we have few such in France.

In several of our Associations are established singing schools, and courses of instruction in the common French branches, as also lectures; these are excellent when well carried out, but they are really quite difficult for us to sustain, for they require devoted professors, and money as well as auditors—three things not always to be found in small societies. Let me say, however, that several attempts of the kind were successful. Very interesting lectures were given in many of our Unions, particularly in the large towns, and were very much liked.

We believe that these lectures are about the best means for attracting the indifferent, and those who do not belong to our society, and, therefore our meetings have not been devoted exclusively to religious subjects. In fact, more than one young man, who would hesitate to come to a prayer meeting, is attracted by this variety of subjects; and when at the end of an interesting lecture, a Christian friend, in offering a cup of tea, addresses to him some few affectionate words, the young man receives a

favorable impression in itself quite a sufficient invitation to come again, and often, to our rooms.

To work for the conversion of young men, to unite in fellowship those who are isolated, to create relations of Christian friendship among them, without regard to the particular church to which they belong, is, I believe, the true work of our Associations. Their object is to form a sort of nursery, so to speak, of zealous and devoted young men for all Christian churches; for with us every sectarian distinction is ignored.

I have not mentioned, among the operations, that our Unions undertake the work of the Sunday Schools, the visits to the sick, the preaching of the Gospel, the distribution of the Holy Scriptures, and so forth—all important works so necessary, and in some of which no true Christian can fail to engage.

I do not, in fact, understand our Unions as forming a society for teaching children, nor as a society for charitable purposes, nor as a Bible society. I believe our Unions ought to be an Association which will furnish young men for all those purposes.

A church, possessing an army of young men, will not lack for evangelists or visitors for the poor. Our churches find most earnest co-operators in our Unions. Thither, then, we must draw the young men; there we must hold fast, and cherish the true life by faith in Christ Jesus.

All the members of our Unions in France belong also to some one or other of those societies. Very many, in particular, work actively for the Sunday schools, and there is an intimate relation existing between these schools and our own work, since among the scholars in them are the future members and strength of our Unions, and many of us have but recently been scholars ourselves.

In France the different Churches feel that they must not be too much divided; and if they differ in some trifling matters, they all feel that they have only one common enemy to fight. Rationalism, indeed, works for the ruin of all, for it will conduct to infidelity in spite of its protestations.

It is in lending an energetic help to our Churches that we shall gain the esteem of their pastors and directors. We have already found much sympathy and encouragement amongst them. Several assisted us by lecturing at our rooms, giving at times addresses especially directed to young men, and by lending their churches and their own houses in which to hold our general assemblies; others, up to the present, have taken little interest in our labors, and thought little of the blessed results God may have in reserve for them.

Under all circumstances, let us remember that our works must be our recommendation. They will be our highest claim to the approval of the Churches; let us be more ready to offer them our help for their labors than to ask their assistance for ours.

Thus far, gentlemen, I have spoken generally of all the French Unions, but before closing I cannot refrain from speaking about our Paris Union, with which I am more particularly acquainted.

There is a great work to be accomplished at Paris, not only amongst young men who reside permanently in that immense city, but also amongst those only there for a short period.

We must attract both by offering to them interesting meetings and

friendly and earnest welcome, and by endeavoring to be more attractive than the temptations with which they may elsewhere meet. It is a difficult task, but worthy of all our efforts and ambition. The field is large, the harvest is great, unfortunately the workmen are few. Our number is too small for so vast a city, and our first care should be to find co-operators.

As an example : When a year ago we were privileged to receive in our city the delegates of Unions of all countries, we much regretted our inability to introduce them to meetings as numerous and flourishing as we could have desired. I trust that those kind friends who were present then will pardon us for not being able to entertain them as well as we should have liked; it would, indeed, have been sweet to us to have done better and more. This universal conference has been to us a source of very great encouragement. We have felt that we were sustained by the earnest wishes of the Christian young men of all countries; and we have had the advantage of forming some most valuable connections. Yet, at the same time that we experienced these emotions of Christian joy, we were humbled by the thought of our weakness, and felt that we were unworthy of the honor of receiving so important an assembly.

The Christian Unions have at Paris eight different meetings in the city; each one of these is composed of but a small number of members; it is in working together harmoniously that we hope to extend its progress.

The Union of Paris has, within the last year, been able to realise three important points. First, the establishment of weekly lectures; secondly, the installation of our secretary agent; thirdly, the foundation of the English branch.

The lectures, about which I have already spoken, presented a list of subjects something like this: "Some of our duties on commencing life;" "The massacres of Syria;" "James Saurin;" "The Resurrection of Christ, an historical fact;" "Origen;" "The Eye;" "The diamond and the coal pit;" and so forth. In these we were fortunate enough to obtain the kind assistance of some very distinguished pastors and professors.

As to the second point, of our secretary agent, we cannot speak in too high terms of praise. Rest assured we shall ever be deeply grateful to our generous English brother to whom we owe this invaluable assistance. Mr. Cote, residing as he does at the rooms of the Union, is enabled to devote to it all his time; from his energy and zeal we hope may come great good.

It is now about six months since our English branch has been in operation unitedly with that of the French, and previously a German Union, on the same basis, had been established in Paris.

In concluding, gentlemen, this somewhat hasty survey of our condition, I must tell you that your brethern in France cannot yet hope to extend their society over the whole of their country. Their desires must be more modest for the present.

To sustain and strengthen existing Unions must now be directed all our efforts. That God may grant us this result we have need of all your prayers. We know we have all your sympathy, and we are strengthened and encouraged by it. Believe me our hearts are ever open to you. There are in France one thousand young men who claim your fellowship in the advancement of the Christian Unions.

Will you not ask the Lord that he may employ them as a powerful instrument for the awakening of the young men who are around about them ?

THE CHRISTIAN UNIONS IN HOLLAND AND BELGIUM.

We find in the "Souvenir de la Cinquième Conférence Universelle des Union Chrétienues de Jeunes Gens," which was held in Paris in September 1867, the subjoined reports upon the Associations in Holland and Belgium. The facts stated are deemed of sufficient interest to justify their translation and insertion here.

HOLLAND.

The Holland Alliance of Christian Unions is governed by a Central Committee, which acts upon the admission of new societies and approves of the basis of their formation. The different sections meet annually in a general assembly and sustain a common organ, which appears every month. The number of these Unions is now (1867) 72, an increase of 8 in the past year, comprising 2,200 members. The only Society that has died is that at Leyde.

In some of the cities, such as Amsterdam, Middlebourg, Almelo, Nimegne, &c., two Societies are sustained, one composed of the young men of the working classes, and the other, including those of comparative wealth and social position. In Amsterdam the first named of these Unions, has 120 members, the other 84. The Central Committee notice with regret these distinctions between brethren, and has worked hard to efface them. At Zaandam these efforts have already succeeded, but in the larger cities it seems almost impossible to accomplish this *desirable result*.

The work of the Unions consists of Bible class exercises, often conducted by one of the pastors; of fraternal discussions upon different subjects, viewed from a Christian stand-point; singing, conferences, &c. These all vary, naturally, according to the intellectual calibre and development of the members, but in everything the Word of God occupies the first place.

A majority of the Unions support Sunday Schools of their own, some of which have from 300 to 400 scholars. In several instances members of the Associations have become evangelists or missionaries, and one of these, a converted Israelite, purposes to work among the Jews.

Outside of the Alliance, there are found in Holland about 35 Unions, having 1,000 members. In various quarters there is manifested a desire for the organization of groups, analogous to those met with in Germany, and already Frise and Zelande have adopted this plan. Without placing itself in direct opposition to the system, and indisposed to interfere with the largest liberty of each Association, the Central Committee has not favored this grouping scheme, fearing that the existing alliance may be compromised thereby.

For some years past a large number of pastors and laymen, who formerly showed us no sympathy—not to use a stronger expression—have forgotten their old prejudices and are now lending us their aid. Our prayer is that the work may go forward and largely prosper under the smile of God !

BELGIUM.

(*Reported by M. De Fays*).

Our report must necessarily be brief. Our Unions are not numerous; they are counted by units; they are of recent date, and are in a great measure composed of young men rescued from the Roman Catholic Church. Compared with your great Associations, brethren of England, America, Germany and France, surely we may say of ourselves, with the man of God, (Judges vi: 15), "O, my Lord, wherewith shall I save Israel? Behold, my family is poor in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house." But why despair if God be with us? Has not He said: "Despise not the day of small things." It is in the strength of this thought that we have wrought thus far and that we desire to work on in the future.

We actually number 11 Unions, thus distributed: 7 in the province of Liège (at Liège, Seraing, Cheratte, Grivegnée, Nessonvaux, Sprimont et Verviers), 2 in Hainaut (at Wasmes and Charleroi), and 2 in Brussels (1 French and the other English).

The total membership on the 9th of June last was 183, of whom 81 were active, 59 associate, and 43 honorary members. Our oldest Association, properly so called, that of Brussels (French), dates from 1853. It owes its formation, as our French brethren will rejoice to know, to the efforts of three members of the French Unions, Messrs. Laget of Nîmes, Gibert and Morin of Paris. To these brethren we shall always make our grateful acknowledgments.

Some years previously to 1853, several young merchants of Anvers were in the habit of meeting every week in the room of a beloved brother connected with the Jerusalem Mission. Together they read and meditated upon the Word of God, but their principal object was the evangelization of the seafaring class, and they sustained a colporteur who aided them in this work.

Up to 1857 no other Society joined that of Brussels, but since that year God has breathed His Holy Spirit upon the field, and on the 13th of June, 1859, took place the first General Conference, to which came delegates from such Associations as had been formed, viz.: Liège, Lize-Seraing, Nessonvaux, Jumet and Jaintignies. The two last named soon disappeared from the list, but the foundation principles were established, and the advantages of the Christian Unions were recognized and appreciated.

Since then, at each Pentecostal Feast, our Unions have sent their delegates to the General Conferences in numbers constantly increasing. Thus, this year at Brussels, we have enjoyed a reunion of 70 young men, of whom 40 came from the provinces—a small number doubtless, but full of encouragement when compared with the meagre assemblage at the beginning, and in view of the fact that the majority of young men composing our Unions, for some years, were snatched from the darkness of Romanism. This fact also accounts for the continued feebleness of our religious development; these new converts had everything to learn. The Bible, to them, was an entirely new book, and among us but few have had the privilege of being taught to read in childhood. On this account, also, we attach all the more importance to our Bible class meetings. The method pursued in these gatherings, almost everywhere, is to appoint

beforehand, in regular turn, some brother to *introduce* the Scriptural subject, and to respond as particularly as practicable, to such questions as as may be put to him.

Some of our Unions, particularly those whose members have been brought out of the Roman Church, such as Lize-Seraing, Sprimont, Nessonvaux, Charleroi, have shown great activity and earnestness in the work of evangelization, by means of open-air meetings, tract distribution, Bible readings and devotional singing of the highest character. These meetings have frequently been blessed as a means of bringing to the truth careless and worldly young men and adults.

Up to the present time and by reason of the difficulties detailed above, the Brussels Unions (French and Hollander) have been almost the only ones which have sought to unite the intellectual with the religious, in developing the character of young men, by means of meetings (for members exclusively) to discuss historical, literary, scientific or moral subjects; also by means of public conferences of pastors and laymen, missionary reunions, classes in foreign languages, &c. Our reading rooms and libraries are scantily furnished either with books or periodicals; not only because our resources are so limited, but, unhappily, because the taste for profitable reading is not very prevalent or well developed among our youth.

Dear Brethren, we follow no mere illusion. We are but at the beginning of our work. Hence we say to you in concluding our report—Support us in our feebleness, aid us by your counsels and your prayers, in order that, “having put our hands to the plough, we look not back,” but that we may grow in wisdom and in Spiritual stature to the glory of Him who is pleased to perfect His work even through the infirmity of his children.

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

1868-69.

Maine	FRANK L. DINGLEY	Auburn.
New Hampshire.....	C. M. WYMAN.....	Keene.
Vermont.....	O. B. DOUGLAS.....	Brattleboro'.
Massachusetts.....	L. P. ROWLAND, Jr.....	Boston.
Connecticut.....	H. P. HOADLEY.....	New Haven.
Rhode Island	EDWIN R. HOLDEN.....	Providence.
New-York.....	JOHN I. PLATT.....	Poughkeepsie.
New Jersey.....	W. J. CARLTON.....	Elizabeth.
Pennsylvania.....	THOMAS MARSHALL.....	Philadelphia.
Delaware.....	W. F. C. MORCELL.....	Smyrna.
Maryland.....	Rev. ROBERT H. WILLIAMS.....	Frederick City.
Virginia	W. F. C. GREGORY.....	Petersburgh.
South Carolina.....	VIRGIL C. DIBBLE.....	Charleston.
Alabama.....	SAMUEL K. COX.....	Montgomery.
Ohio.....	JOHN H. CHEEVER.....	Cincinnati.
Kentucky	S. L. EWING.....	Louisville.
Tennessee.....	M. B. PILCHER.....	Nashville.
Indiana.....	H. H. JUDSON	Mishawaka.
Illinois.....	M. M. WOODS.....	Peoria.
Missouri.....	W. C. REGAL.....	St. Louis.
Michigan	SILAS FARMER.....	Detroit.
Wisconsin.....	HENRY J. COLES.....	Milwaukee.
Iowa.....	GEORGE R. RANSOM.....	Dubuque.
Minnesota.....	J. H. RANDALL.....	St. Paul.
California.....	W. M. CUBERY.....	San Francisco.
West Virginia.....	JAMES C. HERVEY.....	Wheeling.
Nebraska	WILLIAM R. BENTLEY.....	Omaha.
Dakota.....	Rev. E. W. COOK.....	Yankton.
New Mexico.....	WM. H. ROBERTS.....	Santa Fé.
Arizona.....	Hon. RICH'D C. McCORMICK	Tucson.
District of Columbia.....	L. E. SLEIGH.....	Washington.
Canada East.....	T. JAMES CLAXTON.....	Montreal.
Canada West.....	WILLIAM ANDERSON.....	Toronto.
New Brunswick.....	Rev J. G. BAYLIS.....	St. John's.
Nova Scotia.....	JAMES FARQUHAR.....	Halifax.
Prince Edward's Island.....	Hon. CHAS. YOUNG, LL. D.....	Charlottetown.
Jamaica.....	GEORGE HENDERSON.....	Kingston.
Victoria Island.....	JOHN T. PIDWELL.....	Columbia.
Cape Breton	Rev. HUGH ROSS.....	Sidney.
Newfoundland.....	Rev. C. PEDLEY.....	St. John's.

Dr.

GENERAL EXPENSES.

Cr.

Lecture Bureau (Loan).....	\$160 00
Printing and Stationery.....	133 98
Postage.....	155 47
Miscellaneous Expenses.....	50 96
Returns to Vincennes, Ind.....	2 50
Loss on Journal of Proceedings.....	181 40
Loss on Quarterly.....	107 12
Balance in favor of Committee.....	1,334 53

Norwalk, Conn.....	\$5 00
Albany N. Y.....	25 00
33d St. Baptist, N. Y.....	4 63
Iowa City, Iowa.....	5 00
Schenectady, N. Y.....	5 00
Holliston, Mass.....	2 00
Columbus, O.....	5 00
Springfield, Vt.....	5 00
St. Louis, Mo.....	10 00
Walton, N. Y.....	2 00
Pittsford, Vt.....	10 00
Chicago, Ill.....	50 00
Newark, N. J.....	10 00
New-York City.....	50 00
Cincinnati, Ohio.....	25 00
Pittsburgh, Pa.....	30 00
Owego, N. Y.....	5 00
St. Johnsbury, Vt.....	5 00
Hudson, N. Y.....	5 00
Springfield, Mass.....	10 00
Syracuse, N. Y.....	25 00
Danielsonville, Conn.....	25
Grand Rapids, Mich.....	10 00
Erie, Pa.....	10 00
Providence, R. I.....	20 00
Ottawa, Ca.....	5 00
Worcester, Mass.....	10 00
Wheeling, W. Va.....	10 00
Vincennes, Ind.....	2 50
North Shore, S. I.....	10 00
Indianapolis, Ind.....	10 00
Westerly, R. I.....	5 00
Lewiston, Me.....	10 00
Olivet, Mich.....	5 00
Bath, Me.....	2 00
Boston, Mass.....	50 00
Pontiac.....	4 90
Roxbury, Mass.....	5 00
Richmond, Ind.....	10 00
Jersey City, N. J.....	10 00
Westfield, Mass.....	10 00
Middletown, Mass.....	5 00
Washington, D. C.....	10 00
Toronto, Ca.....	10 00
Salem, Mass.....	10 00
Philadelphia, Pa.....	50 00
Omaha, Neb.....	15 00
Hartford, Conn.....	10 00
Cleveland, Ohio.....	20 00
Biddsford, Me.....	5 00
Andover, Me.....	5 00
Brooklyn, N. Y.....	50 00
Halifax, N. S.....	10 00
Amsterdam, N. Y.....	5 00
Northampton, Mass.....	10 00
Springfield, Ohio.....	5 00
Hamilton, Ca.....	10 00
Walton, N. Y.....	2 00
Oberlin, Ohio.....	5 00
Burlington, Vt.....	5 00
East Somerville, Mass.....	5 00
Indianapolis, Ind.....	5 00
Bethlehem, Pa.....	15 00
Poughkeepsie, N. Y.....	10 00
Pacific R. R., balance on hand.....	296 53
Balance from last year.....	1,609 24

\$2,966 05

\$2,966 05

Printing, Publishing, &c.....\$636 46

Norwalk, Conn.....	\$2 50
Albany, N. Y.....	25 00
Detroit, Mich.....	37 50
Schenectady, N. Y.....	2 50
Holliston, Mass.....	1 00
Columbus, Ohio.....	2 50
Springfield, Vt.....	1 50
Iowa City, Iowa.....	1 00
Keene, N. H.....	1 00
Newark, N. J.....	5 00
Sandusky, O.....	3 00
New-York City.....	25 00
Cincinnati, Ohio.....	12 50
Pittsburgh, Pa.....	10 00
Plantville, Conn.....	50
Owego, N. Y.....	2 50
St. Johnsbury, Vt.....	6 00
Hudson, N. Y.....	10 00
Springfield, Mass.....	2 50
Syracuse, N. Y.....	2 50
Grand Rapids, Mich.....	5 00
Erie, Pa.....	7 50
Burlington, Vt.....	7 00
Providence, R. I.....	5 00
Jeffersonville, Ind.....	2 50
Walcottville, Conn.....	1 00
Elizabeth, N. J.....	5 00
Worcester, Mass.....	5 00
Wheeling, W. Va.....	5 00
Poughkeepsie, N. Y.....	5 00
Indianapolis, Ind.....	5 00
South Hadley, Mass.....	5 00
St. Louis, Mo.....	5 00
Oberlin, O.....	2 50
Westerly, R. I.....	2 50
Lewistown, Me.....	2 50
Olivet, Mich.....	2 50
Bath, Me.....	6 00
Boston, Mass.....	25 00
Pontiac, Me.....	50
Roxbury, Mass.....	5 00
Richmond, Ind.....	5 00
St. Paul's, Minn.....	2 50
Jersey City, N. J.....	7 50
Westfield, Mass.....	2 50
Middletown, Mass.....	2 50
Albany, N. Y.....	3 00
Washington, D. C.....	20 00
North Shore, S. I.....	5 00
Toronto, Canada.....	15 07
Galt, Canada.....	2 00
Collingwood, Canada.....	3 00
Salem, Mass.....	2 50
Philadelphia, Pa.....	17 50
Omaha, Neb.....	2 50
Ann Arbor, Mich.....	50
Kingston, Canada.....	2 50
Hartford, Conn.....	5 00
Cleveland, O.....	12 50
Biddeford, Me.....	5 00
Auburn, Me.....	2 50
Brooklyn, N. Y.....	25 00
Stratford, Canada.....	3 00
Halifax, N. S.....	7 50
Amsterdam, N. Y.....	2 50
Northampton, Mass.....	5 00
Mishawaka, Ind.....	5 00
Fair Haven Conn.....	50
Springfield, O.....	50
Hamilton, Canada.....	3 40
New Glasgow, N. S.....	5 00
Indianapolis, Ind.....	2 50
Bethlehem, Pa.....	10 00
Individual Subscribers and Single Mem- bers.....	7 50
Balance against Committee.....	181 49

Total.....\$636 46

\$636

Dr.

THE QUARTERLY.

Cr.

Printing and Publishing.....\$975 60

Norwalk, Conn.....	2 50
Elyria, Ohio.....	2 00
Plantville, Conn.....	2 50
Albany, N. Y.....	12 50
Detroit, Mich.....	37 50
Baltimore, Md.....	4 00
Iowa City, Iowa.....	1 50
Cleveland, O.....	2 50
Troy, N. Y.....	10 00
Schenectady, N. Y.....	2 50
Holiston, Mass.....	50
E. Cambridge, Mass.....	5 00
Columbus, O.....	2 50
Springfield, Vt.....	1 50
Red Wing, Minn.....	8 00
Keene, N. H.....	4 00
Newark, N. J.....	5 00
Cincinnati, O.....	12 50
Pittsburg, Pa.....	12 50
Owego, N. Y.....	2 50
North Shore, S. I.....	2 00
St. Johnsbury, Vt.....	1 00
Hudson, N. Y.....	2 50
Springfield, Mass.....	2 50
Kalamazoo, Mich.....	50
Syracuse, N. Y.....	2 50
Belchertown, Mass.....	50
Grand Rapids, Mich.....	5 00
Erie, Pa.....	5 00
Burlington, Vt.....	9 00
South Hadley, Mass.....	50
St. Louis, Mo.....	5 00
Oberlin, O.....	1 50
Iowa City, Iowa.....	50
Sacramento, Cal.....	5 00
Providence, R. I.....	5 00
Portsmouth, O.....	1 00
Franklin, Ind.....	50
Malden, Mass.....	50
Walesville, Conn.....	1 00
Elizabeth, N. J.....	5 00
Wareham, Mass.....	5 00
Wheeling, W. Va.....	7 50
Poughkeepsie, N. Y.....	10 00
Jeffersonville, Ind.....	3 50
Indianapolis, Ind.....	5 00
Westerly, R. I.....	5 00
New Bedford, Mass.....	50
Lewiston, Me.....	2 50
Olivet, Mich.....	2 50
Bath, Me.....	5 00
Boston, Mass.....	50 00
Portiac.....	50
Roxbury, Mass.....	5 00
Richmond, Ind.....	5 00
St. Paul, Minn.....	2 50
Jersey City, N. J.....	12 50
Westfield, Mass.....	5 00
Middletown, Mass.....	2 50
Washington, D. C.....	12 50
Collingwood, Canada.....	2 50
Toronto, Canada.....	25 00
Galt, Canada.....	4 00
Salem, Mass.....	2 50
Philadelphia, Pa.....	50 00
Omaha, Neb.....	7 50
Utica, N. Y.....	50
Kingston, Canada.....	2 50
Hartford, Conn.....	2 50
Cleveland, O.....	12 50
Portland, Oregon.....	1 50
Biddford, Me.....	50
Auburn, Me.....	2 50
Brooklyn, N. Y.....	25 00
Stratford, Canada.....	3 00
Halifax, N. S.....	7 50

Amount carried Forward.....\$975 60

Amount carried Forward.....\$479 00

Dr.

THE QUARTERLY—Continued.

Cr.

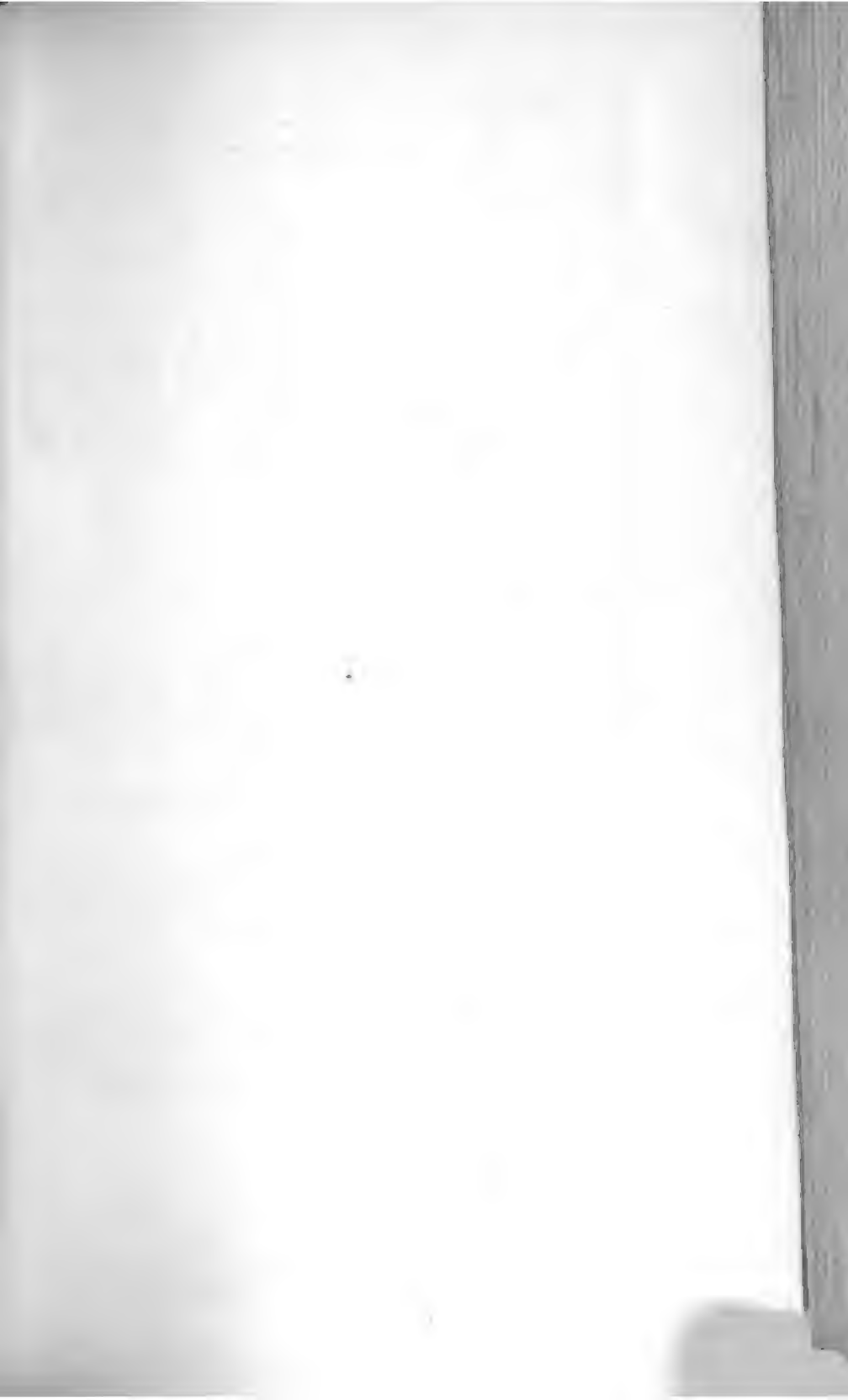
Amount brought Forward.....	\$975 00	Brought forward.....	\$479 00
		Amsterdam, N. Y.....	5 00
		Northampton, Mass.....	5 00
		Mishawauka, Ind.....	5 00
		Fair Haven.....	50
		Springfield, O.....	50
		Trenton, N. J.....	50
		New Glasgow, N. S.....	1 50
		North Shore, S. I.....	5 00
		Indianapolis, Ind.....	9 50
		Bethlehem, Pa.....	10 00
		New York City.....	150 00
		Individual Subscribers and single mem- bers.....	98 98
		Advertising.....	175 00
		Balance against Committee.....	107 12
Total.....	\$975 00	Total.....	\$975 00

Dr.

PACIFIC RAILROAD MISSION.

Cr.

C. R. Agnew.....	\$20 00	R. Weidensall, paid Salary and Travel- ing Expenses.....	\$634 50
Thos. Cochran, Jr.....	25 00		
Old Lady.....	50		
C. E. Whitehead.....	10 00		
T. G. Sellow, Jr.....	25 00		
A. W. Colgate.....	25 00		
J. Thorne, Jr.....	25 00		
Bowles Colgate.....	50 00		
R. G. Bushnell.....	25 00		
W. H. Moore.....	25 00		
M. K. Jesup.....	100 00		
John Crerar.....	100 00		
A. P. Stokes.....	100 00		
W. E. Dodge, Jr.....	100 00		
W. E. Dodge.....	100 00		
James Stokes, Jr.....	50 00		
W. F. Lee.....	25 00		
C. Brainerd.....	25 00		
W. H. Brown.....	25 00		
J. C. Brown.....	25 00		
Clinton, Mass.....	10 00		
West Winsted, Conn.....	24 06		
Brunswick, Maine.....	14 00		
Waterville, ".....	10 00		
Holliston, Mass.....	16 50	Balance in favor of Committee.....	206 53
Total.....	\$855 06	Total.....	\$855 06



YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES AND BRITISH PROVINCES.

COMPILED FROM THE OFFICIAL REPORTS RECEIVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.—1863-64.

NAME.—ADDRESS.	PRESIDENT.	CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.	No. of Members.	Current Expenses last year.	Reading Room.	No. of Volumes in Library.	No. Added during past year.	Estimated Value of Library.	Value of Building.	Amount of Debt on It.	Building Fund.	Seemans to Young Men.	Prayer Meetings at Rooms.	Bible Class.	Other Religious Meetings.	Literary Society.	Free Classes.	Special Religious Interest.	No. of Conversions during past year.
Albion Mines, Nova Scotia.	David Hynd.	A. P. Willis.	40	\$12	No	No					None	2	Weekly	No	No	No	No	No	2
Albany, N. Y.	John W. Osborn.	Sam'l S. Prayn.	617	6,307	Yes	1,132	17	\$1,500			None	2	Daily noon	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	2
Amsterdam, N. Y.	L. L. Dean.	T. R. Burr.	155	9	Yes	200	None	300			None	5	Th weekly	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	2
Albany, Ohio.	E. T. Goucher.	Henry Camp.	31	56	Yes	35	16					12	Weekly	No	No	No	No	No	7
Amesbury & Salisbury, Mass.	Edw. Carpenter.	A. H. Fielden.	134	38	Yes	None					None	No	Weekly	No	No	No	No	No	No
Amherst, Mass.	Nath'l C. Bartlett.	Wm. H. Foster.	130	743	Yes	112		900			None	No	Semi-w'ly	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Aurora, Mich.	Wm W. Winsor.	M. L. Dodge.	121	632	Yes	None		300			None	No	Weekly	No	No	No	No	No	No
Aurora, Conn.	David Chadeayne.	D. Bartholomew.	30	315	Yes	100		1,000			None	3	Weekly	No	Various	No	No	Yes	40
Antigonish, N. S.	T. M. King.	C. B. Whidden.	127	881	Yes	None					None	No	Weekly	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
Ashland, Ohio.	Jos. G. Sanborn.	Jos. K. Stebbins.	25	230	Yes	50	175				None	6	Semi-w'ly	No	Yes	No	No	No	4
Ashabula, Ohio.	Geo. Beck.	S. E. Fay.	100	530	Yes	1,100	14				None	No	Weekly	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
Atol, Mass.	F. C. Parmenter.	Adison Small.	208	2,737	Yes	None					None	No	Weekly	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
Auburn, Me.	A. M. Jackson.	John H. Osborne.	69	200	Yes	50	14				None	No	Daily	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	7
Auburn, N. Y.	Sam'l W. Hunt.	Wm. H. B. Woodlue.	130	290	No	None					None	No	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Ballard Vale, Mass.	John C. Bridgman.	Jas. Crawford.	130	290	No	None					None	No	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Baltimore, Md.	Wm. A. Tottle.	Wm. H. Green.	73		No	None					None	No	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Baltimore "Central," Md.	Wm. P. Hubbard.	C. B. Lakin.	73		No	None					None	No	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Bangor, Me.	A. C. Palmer.	G. H. Palmer.	66	706	No	None					None	4	D & S.W.	Varsions	Varsions	Varsions	Varsions	Varsions	6
Bath, Me.	John L. Dolson.	Geo. T. Cobb.	76	900	Yes	None					None	No	Weekly	No	No	No	No	Yes	6
Bay City, Mich.	Leomar A. Smith.	A. E. Ferry.	75	251	Yes	251	41	250			None	No	Weekly	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	8
Bellevue, Mass.	Henry J. Seaman.	A. J. Harw.	452	1,500	Yes	1,500		5,000	\$25,000		None	No	Semi-w'ly	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	8
Bethlehem, Penn.	Chas. H. Odell.	David A. Preston.	40		No	None					None	5	Semi-w'ly	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	16
Beverly, Mass.	Reuben M. Hobbs.	Ben. N. Towle.	225	460	No	None					None	4	4 a week	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	16
Hingham, Me.	C. A. Whittey.		70	900	Yes	50	50				None	No	Weekly	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Hingham, N. Y.	Henry D. Hyde.	L. P. Reynolds, Jr.	2,000	7,000	Yes	4,400	125	10,500			None	31,150	3 daily	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	313
Keosauqua, Iowa.	J. K. Williams.	A. T. Johnson.	180	300	Yes	200		250			None	No	Weekly	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Keosauqua, Iowa.	Edg. J. Hillis.	W. J. Nichols.	180	300	Yes	200		250			None	No	Weekly	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Keosauqua, Iowa.	A. M. Babcock.	E. J. Nichols.	40		Yes						None	No	Weekly	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Keosauqua, Iowa.	G. E. Van Norman.	E. W. Cragg.	507		Yes						None	No	Weekly	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No

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CONTINUATION OF THE OFFICIAL REPORTS RECEIVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 1868-69.

NAME.—ADDRESS.	PRESIDENT.	CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.	No. of Members.	Current Expenses last year.	Reading Room.	No. of Volumes in Library.	No. Added during past year.	Estimated Value of Library.	Value of Building on it.	Building Fund.	Sermons to Young Men.	Prayer Meetings at Rooms.	Bible Class.	Other Religious Meetings.	Literary Society.	Free Classes.	Special Religious Interest.	No. of Conversions during past year.
East Middlebury, Va.	Wm. Grant.	Artemus Nichols.	44	\$109	No	None	36	\$440		None	Yes	Weekly	2	Yes	No	No	No	3
East Saginaw, Mich.	Jas. L. Monroe.	Harvey Jocelyn.	108	413	Yes	None	210			None	Yes	Dy & S. W		Yes	No	No	No	25
East Weymouth, Mass.	Martin E. Harvey.	Edwin Howard.	114	320	Yes	210	36			None	Yes	Weekly	No	Various	No	No	Yes	3
Easton, Penn.	Sam'l L. Fisher.	Prof. S. J. Coffin.	140	300	Yes	92	92	125		None	None	Semi-wkly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	3
Eaton Rapids, Mich.	C. D. Kuyka.	M. W. Elmore.	30			None					None	Weekly						
Edgewater Station Ind., N. Y.	Justus O. Wood.	Geo. Simpson.	33		Yes	None					None	Weekly	No	Yes				
Elizabeth, N. J.	Wm. J. Carlton.	A. Pettit, M.D.	262	475	Yes	600	50	800		None	None	Weekly	3	Yes	Yes	No	No	
Elgin, Ill.	J. S. Adams.	I. S. Bartlett.	105	200	Yes	50	50			None	None	Weekly	2	Yes	Yes	No	No	
Elmira, Ohio.	H. H. Bowdin.	D. C. Andrews.	37	567	Yes	50				None	None	Weekly	2	Yes	Yes	No	No	
Elmira, N. Y.	Prof. J. D. Steele.	Chas. C. Hall.	345	10151	Yes	1,700	120	3,000		None	None	Weekly	2	Yes	Yes	No	No	
Erie, Penn.	N. J. Clark.	H. S. Jones.	310	2,100	Yes	4,200	459	10,000		None	None	Weekly	2	Yes	Yes	No	No	
Exeter, N. H.	Rev. Noah Hooper.	Chas. C. Bell.	30	64	No	20				None	None	Weekly	2	Yes	Yes	No	No	
Fairlee, Va.	Jas. Pettie.	Geo. D. Spencer.	38	300	Yes					None	None	Weekly	2	Yes	Yes	No	No	
Fairlee, Va.	John Stratton.	Frank M. Bailey.	20	150	No					None	None	Weekly	2	Yes	Yes	No	No	
Fall River, Mass.	Geo. B. Durfee.	I. C. Eddy.	277		Yes	None				None	None	Weekly	2	Yes	Yes	No	No	
Farmington, Mo.	Geo. R. Stanley.	E. W. Perkins.	60		Yes	None				None	None	Weekly	2	Yes	Yes	No	No	
Farmington, N. H.	E. W. Ricker.		108	222	Yes	None		400		None	None	Weekly	2	Yes	Yes	No	No	
Fenton, Mich.	Fletcher Linsley.	M. K. Christy.	108	222	Yes	None		400		None	None	Weekly	2	Yes	Yes	No	No	
Fitchburg, Mass.	J. C. Montion.	G. S. Houghton.	463	500	Yes	None				None	None	Weekly	2	Yes	Yes	No	No	
Fond du Lac, Wis.	C. V. Pettibone.	J. H. Hauser.	340	592	Yes	Yes				None	None	Weekly	2	Yes	Yes	No	No	
Franklin, Ind.	Wm. Davis.	A. A. Morey.	70		Yes	Yes				None	None	Daily	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	
Franklin, N. H.	C. T. Page.	Benj. S. Colby.	60	300	Yes	None				None	None	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	
Frederick City, Md.	James Hogg.	L. R. Cochran.	23	57	Yes	None				None	None	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	
Fremont, Ill.	Geo. G. Morse.	B. T. Sanborn.	25	150	Yes	441	40	400		None	None	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	
Fremont, Neb.	H. R. Harmon.	B. T. Sanborn.	25	150	Yes	441	40	400		None	None	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	
Galesburg, Ill.	Joseph Hoover.	H. P. Ayres.	47		Yes	Yes				None	None	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	
Gal. Ontario, Can.	Angus Polson.	Adam Kay.	285	300	No					None	None	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	
Gardham, Mo.	Stephen Hinkley.	T. P. Irish.	103	178	No	100				None	None	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	
Goshen, Conn.	T. W. Griswold.	Noah R. Hart.	52	125	No	100	100			None	None	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	
Goshen, N. Y.	Ros. C. Coleman.	F. A. Merrian.	63		Yes	None				None	None	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	
Grafton, Mass.	Jessie H. Smith.	Jo. A. Dodge.	102	400	Yes	800	50			None	None	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	
Grand Rapids, Mich.	M. S. Cressley.	H. W. Postle.	123	1,520	Yes	None	40	200		None	None	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	
Gray, Me.	C. Bean, (acting).	E. A. Marr.	63	35	No	140	40			None	None	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	

[illegible]

CONTINUATION OF THE OFFICIAL REPORTS RECEIVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 1868-69.

NAME.—Address.	PRESIDENT.	CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.	No. of Members.	Current Expenses last year.	Reading Room.	No. of Volumes in Library.	No. Added during past year.	Estimated Value of Library.	Value of Building.	Amount of Debt on it.	Building Fund.	Seasons to Young Men.	Prayer Meetings at Rooms.	Bible Class.	Other Religious Meetings.	Literary Society.	Free Classes.	Special Religious Interest.	No. of Conversions during past year.
Macon, Mo.	M. L. Moore.	Frank L. Pairo.	30.	\$130	Yes	70	70	40				19	4	No	No	No	No	No	No
Madison, N. Y.	Jas. N. Palmer.	J. C. Williamson.	150	300	Yes	300	300					3	4	No	No	No	No	No	No
Manchester, N. H.	J. P. Newell.	M. P. Hall.	150	68	Yes	300	300					3	4	No	No	No	No	No	No
Manchester, Vt.	S. G. Con.	Thos. Swift.	40	40	Yes	300	300					3	4	No	No	No	No	No	No
Manitowish, Ohio.	S. H. Reed.	L. F. Bonar.	150	40	Yes	300	300					3	4	No	No	No	No	No	No
Marblehead, Mass.	W. R. Goodbridge.	G. C. Osgood.	40	75	Yes	300	300					3	4	No	No	No	No	No	No
Mechanics Falls, Maine.	Jno. W. Penny.	Wm. Jones.	45	150	Yes	300	300					3	4	No	No	No	No	No	No
Mendota, Ill.	S. M. Heath.	J. A. Edwards.	73	1,072	Yes	300	300					3	4	No	No	No	No	No	No
Merriden, Conn.	R. W. Hatch.	Ed. J. Merriman.	320	1,072	Yes	300	300					3	4	No	No	No	No	No	No
Middleboro, Mass.	J. W. F. Jenks.	A. N. Clarke.	100	300	Yes	300	300					3	4	No	No	No	No	No	No
Milford, Conn.	Elliot B. Platt.	G. L. Southwick.	131	300	Yes	300	300					3	4	No	No	No	No	No	No
Milford, Mass.	A. A. Cook.	W. E. Eggleston.	225	300	Yes	300	300					3	4	No	No	No	No	No	No
Minneapolis, Minn.	W. O. Blakey.	M. S. Perkins.	114	35	No	300	300					3	4	No	No	No	No	No	No
Mishawaka, Ind.	E. F. Honser.	M. D. Hamilton.	35	75	No	300	300					3	4	No	No	No	No	No	No
Monroe, Mich.	Prof. E. J. Boyd.	L. Cushing, Jr.	390	3,000	Yes	1,580	1,580					3	4	No	No	No	No	No	No
Montreal, Canada.	R. F. Faribault.	W. H. Briggs.	54	34	Yes	1,580	1,580					3	4	No	No	No	No	No	No
Mt. Pleasant, O.	Thos. E. Parker.	G. H. Greenman.	91	1,000	Yes	533	533					3	4	No	No	No	No	No	No
Mystic, Conn.	John R. Adams.	W. F. Spalding.	170	1,000	Yes	533	533					3	4	No	No	No	No	No	No
Nashua, N. H.	John R. Adams.	Edw. Perry.	158	450	Yes	533	533					3	4	No	No	No	No	No	No
Newark, N. J.	Chas. C. Lathrop.	H. M. Burnett.	310	1,975	Yes	533	533					3	4	No	No	No	No	No	No
New Bedford, Mass.	G. B. Allen.	A. T. Eddy.	105	1,900	Yes	533	533					3	4	No	No	No	No	No	No
New Britain, Conn.	E. B. Richmond.	M. S. Ward.	105	500	Yes	533	533					3	4	No	No	No	No	No	No
New Brunswick, N. J.	F. L. Jernegan.	D. C. English.	205	810	Yes	533	533					3	4	No	No	No	No	No	No
Newburgh, N. Y.	R. V. K. Moulford.	M. C. Perkins.	207	321	Yes	533	533					3	4	No	No	No	No	No	No
New Glasgow, Nova Scotia.	Dani. M. Donald.	Robt. McConnell.	93	321	Yes	533	533					3	4	No	No	No	No	No	No
New Haven, Conn.	J. H. Starkweather.	E. P. Fidd.	500	325	Yes	533	533					3	4	No	No	No	No	No	No
New Ipswich, N. H.	J. W. Willoughby.	E. F. Newton.	153	325	Yes	533	533					3	4	No	No	No	No	No	No
New London, Conn.	Newton Fuller.	Thos. W. Haven.	178	700	Yes	533	533					3	4	No	No	No	No	No	No
New York City, N. Y.	John P. Hall.	Aug. Bapsted.	400	10,313	4	3,472	122					3	4	No	No	No	No	No	No
New York City (Cal. Branch)	John P. Hall.	John P. Hall.	400	10,313	4	3,472	122					3	4	No	No	No	No	No	No
New York City (Cal. Branch)	John P. Hall.	John P. Hall.	400	10,313	4	3,472	122					3	4	No	No	No	No	No	No
New York City (Cal. Branch)	John P. Hall.	John P. Hall.	400	10,313	4	3,472	122					3	4	No	No	No	No	No	No

[illegible]

CONTINUATION OF THE OFFICIAL REPORTS RECEIVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 1868-69.

NAME—ADDRESS.	PRESIDENT.	CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.	No. of Members.	Current Expenses last year.	Reading Room.	No. of Volumes in Library.	No. Added during past year.	Estimated Value of Library.	Value of Building.	Amount of Debt on it.	Building Fund.	Sermons to Young Men.	Prayer Meetings at Rooms.	Bible Class.	Other Religious Meetings.	Literary Society.	Free Classes.	Special Religious Interest.	No. of Conversions during past year.
Richmond, Me.	D. Chamberlain.	D. S. Richards.	25	390	No	None	50	1,000			8,000	No	2 a week.	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	3
Richmond Co., N. Y.	Chas. F. Cox.	Louis F. Burgess.	390	\$500	No	None	400	1,000			8,000	No	1 Weekly.	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Richmond, Va.	B. E. Wofford.	C. C. Packham.	619	1,633	Yes	4	4,480	173	8,000		None	No	No.	No	No	No	No	No	No
Ripon, Wis.	Elector Daues.	C. S. Duncan.	25	82	No	400		500				No	No.	No	No	No	No	No	No
Riverhead, N. Y.	O. G. Wells.	J. H. Young.	18		No						Yes	No	Weekly.	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
River John, N. S.	Oliver Langill.	John McRae.	14		No						None	3	Weekly.	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
Rochester, Minn.	J. D. Blake.	James M. Clark.	64	386	Yes	Yes	937	1,500			None	No	Daily.	No	Yes	No	No	No	160
Rochester, N. Y.	W. Benedict.	C. W. Huntington.	38		No	350	350	400			None	6	Tri-weekly	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No
Rockaway, N. Y.	Sam'l Klotz.	Edw. A. Holmes.	79	764	Yes	Yes	350				None	4	Semi-weekly	No	Yes	No	No	No	5
Roxbury, Mass.	C. E. Miles.	W. R. Nichols.	230	100	No	None	None				None	2	Weekly.	No	Yes	No	No	No	10
Rutland, Mass.	W. A. Wheeler.	E. B. Miles.	100	800	Yes	Yes					None	1	Semi-weekly	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	3
Rutland, Vt.	O. L. Slader.	E. H. Morriss.	73		Yes	Yes					Yes	4	Weekly.	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No
Sacramento, Me.	A. P. Styles.	Albert Chase.	71		Yes	Yes					Yes	No	Weekly.	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No
Saco, Me.	H. P. Cobb.	A. Turbury.	80	600	Yes	Yes	152	150			Yes	4	Daily.	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No
Sacramento, Cal.	Chas. A. Bailey.	M. Denslow.	300	2,590	Yes	Yes	300	40			None	No	Daily.	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	2
Salem, Mass.	Sey. C. S. Atwood.	Levi F. Warren.	102	150	No	None	20	10			None	No	Semi-weekly	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	4
Salem, Ohio	C. C. Snyder.	A. E. French.	31	150	No	None	300	3,000	60,000		None	24	Weekly.	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
Sandwich, Mass.	N. F. Fessenden.	S. F. Hoxie.	62	350	Yes	Yes	300	100			13,000	No	Daily.	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
San Francisco, Cal.	North Brooks.	W. M. Cubery.	367	500	Yes	Yes	300	100			None	Yes	Daily.	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
San Francisco, N. Y.	Silas F. Briggs.	Chas. F. Rich.	99	500	Yes	Yes	700	250			None	4	Dy 2 wky.	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
Saratoga Springs, N. Y.	T. C. Bradner.	W. Van Buskirk.	174		Yes	Yes					None	3	Weekly.	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
Saugerties, N. Y.	Nicholas Cain.	Jos. B. Graham.	39		No	Yes	335	300			None	4	Weekly.	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
Schenectady, N. Y.	C. Fox.		94	1,090	Yes	Yes	300				None	3	Weekly.	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
Shelby, Ohio.	G. W. Bellow.		74		Yes	Yes	335	300			None	4	Weekly.	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
Shelbyville, Ill.	A. Clements.	W. R. Read.	94		Yes	Yes	335	300			None	3	Weekly.	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
Shelbrooke, N. S.	Jno. McMillan.	W. H. McDaniel.	74	1,500	No	No	33		2,000	500	None	No	2 a week.	30	Yes	No	No	Yes	30
Shureham, Vt.	Chas. Hammond.	C. N. North.	101		Yes	Yes	250	100			None	No	Semi-weekly.	No	Yes	No	No	No	15
South Hadley, Mass.	J. M. Greene.	C. A. Gritley.	75	400	Yes	Yes	375	300			None	Yes	Weekly.	No	Yes	No	No	No	15
South Norwalk, Conn.	E. D. Cornell.	Dan'l Mallard.	920	178	No	None	100				None	Yes	Weekly.	No	Yes	No	No	No	15
Spencer, Mass.	Wm. Upham.	P. G. Vrent.	53	400	Yes	Yes	250	100			None	Yes	Weekly.	No	Yes	No	No	No	15
Springfield, Mass.	II. W. Bullett.	A. L. Leonard.	223	100	Yes	Yes	300	400			None	6	Weekly.	No	Yes	No	No	No	15
Springfield, Mo.	Jas. B. Moore.	W. W. D. Sheppard.	45	1,300	Yes	Yes	200				None	Yes	Weekly.	No	Yes	No	No	No	15
Springfield, Ohio.	E. W. Mullikin.	A. E. Dudley.	108	1,300	Yes	Yes	2,000	2,000			None	Yes	Weekly.	No	Yes	No	No	No	15
Springfield, Vt.	Franklin F. Hall.	J. O. Spring.	51	235	Yes	Yes	4,000	2,000			None	Yes	Weekly.	No	Yes	No	No	No	15

St. John, New Brunswick.	William Walsh.	Josh. Clawson.	250	2600	Yes	134	\$134	\$120	Name No Weekly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	13
St. Johnsbury, Vermont.	G. D. Warren.	Geo. May.	400	1,100	Yes	1,000		300	None No Weekly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	13
St. Louis, Mo.	Shepard Wells.	W. C. Borge.	340	2,500	Yes	300	Yes	350	None Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
St. Paul, Min.	J. H. Randolph.	E. H. Smith.	153	2,500	No	175	None	300	None 1 Dy & W.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
St. Thomas, Ontario	D. K. McKimble.	W. H. Tux.	63	100	No	100			None 3 Ty & W.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
Stamford, Conn.	Chas. W. Bond.	F. E. Skellding	79		Yes				None Weekly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
Steubenville, Ohio.	R. Sherman, Jr.	J. Buchanan.	200	1,100	Yes	1,200		1,000	Yes Weekly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
Stoughton, Mass.	Samuel Mackburn.	J. F. Smith.	23		No	None			None 2 Semi weekly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
Stoughton, Maine.	Elihu Smith.	J. G. Montague.	112		No	None			None No Weekly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
Syracuse, N. Y.	Thos. G. Russell.	Isaac Bridgman.	284	2,655	No	None			None 4 Daily.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
Talenceconche, N. S.	Arch. Campbell.	Edmund Moore.	25	900	Yes	None		400	None Weekly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
Tiffin, Ohio.	S. J. Kirkwood.	T. G. McCabonit.	80		Yes	None			None 5 Daily.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
Toledo, Ohio.	Charles Pratt.	W. H. Alexander.	150		Yes	None		300	None Weekly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
Topeka, Kan.	E. H. Blake.	W. F. Baker.	127	1,275	Yes	950			None 6 Weekly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
Toronto, Ontario, Canada.	D. W. Wilson, LL.D.	Wm. Anderson.	60	200	Yes	1,000			None 1 Weekly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
Towanda, Pa.	C. M. Hall.	S. D. Black.	42	30	No	3,000			None 5 Weekly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
Townsend, Vt.	C. L. Clay.	S. D. Winstow.	42	30	No	1,000			None 1 Weekly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
Tremont, N. Y.	Chas. B. Riker.	Wm. Hartley.	57	800	Yes	3,200			None 5 Weekly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
Troy, N. Y.	A. Jameson.	Jas. Buchanan.	950	4,000	Yes	3,200			None 1 Weekly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
Tryon, N. S.	C. M. Estes.	J. D. Tucker.	34	300	Yes				None No Weekly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
Underhill Centre, Vt.	James K. Blair.	D. H. Adams.	173	300	Yes	75			None 7 Weekly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
Utica, N. Y.	Marvin Wires.	A. P. Potter.	85	400	Yes	2,500		50	None Yes Daily.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
Wakarusa, Mass.	Wm. H. Fisher.	W. E. Cowdray.	712	6,733	Yes	2,500			None Weekly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
Washington, D. C.	H. L. Haskell.	Luther E. Leigh.	124	150	Yes				None Weekly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
Washington, Pa.	J. O. Howard.	J. O. Bayley.	120	103	No	None			None Weekly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
Waterbury, Conn.	L. S. Davis.	D. L. Smith.	30	75	No	None			None Weekly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
Waterbury, Vt.	J. J. Colby.	L. H. Haines.	143	922	Yes				Yes Semi weekly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
Waterloo, Iowa.	J. A. Jones.	C. T. Ingerson.	100	15	No				None No.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
Wayne, N. Y.	W. B. Harrison.	J. A. Baker.	174		Yes				None 8 W. & D.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
Westerly, R. I.	L. H. Beals.	M. E. Searle.	302		No	None			None 1 Monthly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
Westfield, Mass.	Leonard Beede.	J. C. Pierson.	30		No	None			None Weekly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
Westfield, N. J.	A. B. Foster.	A. B. Hill.	28		No	19			None Weekly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
West, Brookfield, Vt.	Jon. Chapin.	J. H. Durkee.	47		No				None Weekly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
West, Brookfield, Mass.	M. W. Hall.	Jon. H. Gleason.	235	500	Yes	27	100	300	None Semi mtlly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
West, Brookfield, N. J.	R. W. Armstrong.	A. H. Sharpe.	73	550	Yes	27	100	300	None 6 Weekly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
West, Newton, Mass.	R. W. Kennell.	J. J. Eddy.	21		No	None			None 2 Fortnightly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
West, Newton, Nova Scotia.	Jas. McLean.	David Muller.	70		No	None			None 8 Semi mtlly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
West, Bridge, Vt.	E. S. Wright.	Martha N. Baker.	229	850	Yes	407	45	475	None Weekly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
Wheeling, West Va.	W. B. Shuman.	W. H. Orsby.	47		Yes	75		75	None Weekly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
Wilmington, Vt.	N. W. Wilber.	A. W. Goodman.	41	810	Yes	100	100		None Weekly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
Wilmington, Mass.	M. W. Chandler.	W. C. Howard.	34		Yes	100	100		None Weekly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
Windham, Mass.	C. W. Hastings.	C. W. Dimeck.	50	25	No	None			None Monthly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
Windsor, Nova Scotia.	M. H. Gooding.	J. B. Flowers.	115	1,000	Yes	None			None 3 Daily.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
Winona, Minn.	Wm. B. Hillson.	Wm. F. Fiedler.	73	135	No	None			None Weekly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10
Winodski, Vt.	A. C. Eadard.	L. H. Elliott.	73		No	None			None Weekly.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10

CONTINUATION OF THE OFFICIAL REPORTS RECEIVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 1868-69

[illegible]

ASSOCIATIONS WHICH DID NOT FORMALLY REPORT AT PORTLAND.

MAINE.

Andover,
Augusta,
Brunswick,
Dexter,
Dover,
Fryesburg,
Gardiner,
Leeds,
Oxford,
Skowhegan,
Wiscasset,
Winthrop,
Walterville.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Canterbury,
Leicester,
Littleton,
Meriden,
Newmarket,
S. Falls.

VERMONT.

Bakersfield,
Bennington,
Bristol,
Benson,
Bridgeport,
Castleton,
Essex Centre,
E. Barnard & Pomfret,
Felchville,
Johnstown,
Middlebury,
Perkinsville,
Painville,
Randolph,
Royalton,
Rochester,
St. Albans,
South Royalton,
Salisbury,
Stowe,
(West) Rutland,
Windham,
Windsor.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Attleboro,
Amherst,
Amherst College,
Ashland,
Brookfield,
Barre,

Chicopee,
Charlestown,
Cambridge,
Deerfield,
East Wayman,
East Abington,
East Hampton,
East Somerville,
Frammingham,
Foxboro,
Greenfield,
Gloucester,
Gardiner,
Heath,
Marlboro,
Malden,
Medford,
Monson,
Medway,
Newburyport,
Newton Corner,
New Ipswich,
North Adams,
North Bridgewater,
North Wrentham,
Oakham,
Pittsfield,
Rockport,
South Frammingham,
South Reading,
Sunderland,
Shelburne Falls,
South Weymouth,
South Boston,
South Danvers,
South Deerfield,
Somerville,
Saxonville,
Townsend Centre,
West Amesbury,
Williamstown,
Williams College,
Westboro,
Whitensville,
Waltham,
Warren,
Westville,
Weymouth,
Winchester,
Woburn,
Yarmouth,
Yarmouth Port.

RHODE ISLAND.

Compton,

Centerville,
Newport,
Warren,
Wakefield,
Woonsocket.

CONNECTICUT.

Danbury,
Kensington,
Middletown,
North Brookfield,
Norwalk,
New Canaan,
North Stonington,
Stonington,
Seymour,
Unionville,
Wolcottville,
Windsor Locks,
West Goshen,
West Meriden,
Wallingford.

NEW YORK.

Bath,
Brewster's Station,
Cohoes,
Delhi,
Dunkirk,
Fredonia,
Gloversville,
Hornelville,
Hoosick Falls,
Ithaca,
Jamestown,
Lockport,
Middletown,
North Shore, S. I.,
New Rochelle,
Palmyra,
Phelps,
Pera,
Rome,
Red Wing,
Sandy Hill,
Walton,
Weedsport,
Williamsburg.

NEW JERSEY.

Burlington,
Bergen,
Hoboken,
Lambertville,
Montclair,

ERRATA.

On page XIII, at paragraph 13, read "three thousand four hundred and fifty" for two thousand and sixty-three.

On page XVII, in section IX, read "three hundred and twenty-five" for three hundred and forty-seven.

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.
 Baltimore, colored,
 Cumberland,
 Harrisonville,
 Lutherville,
 West Minster.

VIRGINIA.
 Charlottesville,
 Petersburg.

WEST VIRGINIA.
 Clarksburg,
 Moundville,
 Wheeling.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.
 (East) Washington.

SOUTH CAROLINA.
 Banavista,
 Columbia,
 Florence,
 Greenville,
 Newbury,
 Sumter,
 Spartansburg.

ALABAMA.
 Montgomery,
 Mobile,
 Opelek (Lee Co.),
 Opeleka (Russell Co.).

INDIANA.
 Goshen,
 Kokomo,
 Lafayette,
 Logansport,
 Madison,
 New Albany,
 South Bend,
 Terre Haute,
 Washington (Davis Co.).

ILLINOIS.
 Aurora,
 Arcola,
 Batavia,
 Bloomington,
 Brimfield,
 Champaign,
 Clinton,
 Elmwood,
 Fairburgh,
 Geneva,
 Henepin,
 Monmouth,
 Morris,
 Macomb,
 Olney,
 Princeville,
 Princeton,
 Rockford,
 Rock Island,
 Springfield,
 St. Charles,
 Washburn,

IOWA.
 Boonesboro,
 Burlington,
 Des Moines,
 Marshalltown,
 Montana,
 Winterset.

WISCONSIN.
 Appleton,
 Berlin,
 Burlin,
 Fort Atchison,
 Green Bay,
 Madison,
 Milwaukee,
 Menashe,
 Oshkosh,
 Palmyra,
 Whitewater.

MICHIGAN.
 Adrian,
 Ann Arbor, (city),
 Allegan,
 Battle Creek,
 Fentonville,
 Holly,
 Ionia,
 Marshall,
 Marquette.



Members of the National Executive Committee,

APPOINTED AT PORTLAND, MAINE, JULY, 1869.

CEPHAS BRAINERD,	48 Pine Street
WILLIAM F. LEE,	150 West 48th Street
JAMES STOKES, JR.,	104 John Street
TIMOTHY G. SELLEW, JR.,	104 Fulton Street
BENJAMIN C. WETMORE,	9 Pine Street
EDGAR A. HUTCHINS,	39 Pine Street
ROBERT R. MCBURNEY, Y. M. C. A. Building (corner 23d Street and 4th Avenue).	

Corresponding Members.

Maine.....	BENJAMIN N. TOWLE.
New Hampshire.....	CHARLES W. MORSE.
Vermont.....	O. B. DOUGLAS.....Brattleboro.
Massachusetts.....	L. P. ROWLAND, JR.....Boston.
Rhode Island.....	E. R. HOLDEN.....Providence.
Connecticut.....	NEWTON FULLER.....New London.
New-York.....	JOHN I. PLATT.....Poughkeepsie.
New Jersey.....	W. J. CARLTON.....Elizabeth.
Pennsylvania.....	THOMAS K. CREE.....Pittsburgh.
Maryland.....	Rev. R. H. WILLIAMS.....Frederick.
District of Columbia.....	L. E. SLEIGH.....Washington.
West Virginia.....	JOHN C. HERVEY.....Wheeling.
South Carolina.....	VIRGIL C. DIBBLE.....Charleston.
Kentucky.....	JOHN L. WHEAT.....Louisville.
Ohio.....	JOHN H. CHEEVER.....Cincinnati.
Indiana.....	M. B. BARNARD.....Indianapolis.
Illinois.....	W. W. WOODS.....Peoria.
Missouri.....	E. S. GREENWOOD.....St. Louis.
Michigan.....	SILAS FARMER.....Detroit.
Wisconsin.....	J. H. COWLES.....Madison.
Nebraska.....	W. R. BENTLEY.....Omaha.
Iowa.....	G. R. RANSOM.....Dubuque.
California.....	JOHN ARMSTRONG, JR.....San Francisco.
Minnesota.....	W. O. HISKEY.....Rochester.
Kansas.....	J. W. BAKER.....Leavenworth.
New Mexico.....	W. H. ROBERTS.....Santa Fe.
Quebec.....	J. REDPATH DOUGALL.....Montreal.
Ontario.....	WILLIAM ANDERSON.....Toronto.
Nova Scotia.....	JAMES FARQUHAR.....Halifax.
New Brunswick.....	J. L. CLAWSON.....St. John's.
Prince Edward Island.....	R. W. SPRAGUE.....Charlottetown.

III 9399.22
PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

Men's Christian Associations

OF THE

UNITED STATES AND BRITISH PROVINCES,

HELD AT INDIANAPOLIS, IND.,

JUNE, 1870.

New-York :

PUBLISHED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1870



PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

Young Men's Christian Associations

OF THE

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JUNE, 1870.



New-York:

PUBLISHED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

1870.

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CULARS, &c., CONVENING THE CONVENTION.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN
ASSOCIATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES AND BRITISH
PROVINCES, COR. 23D STREET AND FOURTH AVENUE,
NEW-YORK, 25TH APRIL, 1870. }

Young Men's Christian Association of

MEMBERS.—The Committee announces that after correspondence with the
representatives of the Association at Indianapolis, WEDNESDAY, the Twenty-
fourth of June next, has been fixed upon for the meeting in that City, of
the Tenth Annual Convention of the Young Men's Christian Associations of
the United States and British Provinces. The meeting for organization will be
at ten o'clock, A. M., of that day.

A Circular will be issued, at the earliest day practicable, by the proper Com-
mittee of the Indianapolis Association, giving the details of all arrangements
relative to Railroad routes, Reductions of Fare, Entertainment of Delegates, and

It will be the aim of both Committees to make this circular so complete
as to render unnecessary any letters of inquiry in regard to these details.

Representation, as fixed by previous Conventions, is computed upon all
the members of the Associations, and three delegates are allowed to all
Associations of one hundred members or less, and one additional delegate for each
additional one hundred members or fraction of fifty or more; but no Associa-
tion can have more than fifteen delegates. Only male delegates are admitted.
Associations organized after the sixteenth day of July, 1869, will be allowed
no representation, unless the test of active membership, adopted at the Portland
Convention, viz., membership of an Evangelical Church, be incorporated in its
constitution.

The Executive Committee will submit to the Convention the following
resolutions in regard to which they ask the Associations to advise with their dele-
gates before their departure for the Convention, and as to which they will be
able to make subscriptions, viz:

1.—The work of Mr. Robert Weidensall, as the Western Agent of the
Association.

2.—The work of Messrs. William F. Lee (of this Committee,) and
J. A. Hall, in their fraternal visit to the brethren of the Associations at the
Portland Convention.

3.—All matters connected with the Association Monthly.

4.—The needs of the Associations in respect of a permanent Secretary
and Executive Committee.

5.—The Portland Convention has shown that the subscriptions amounted to some seven thousand dollars.
The Committee is persuaded the work cannot be prosecuted for another year
on the same sum, and they are rejoiced to say that the exhibit which will be
presented at Indianapolis in regard to the expenditure of the money with which
they are entrusted, as well as concerning substantial and practical results, will
justify the action adopted at Portland.

6.—The Executive Bureau will also present its report, and ask action by the Con-

The Committee suggests the following questions and topics as desirable to be submitted to the Convention for discussion :

1. What branch of Association work has afforded most encouragement during the past year?
2. The difficulties and hindrances encountered during the year.
3. How shall we best impress upon our members, and upon the community, a conviction of the permanency of these societies?
4. The pledge of each person, upon joining an Association, to direct personal effort for the salvation of young men.
5. The duty of the office-bearers and leaders in the Associations in regard to the purely religious work, and the mode in which it can be best performed.
6. The importance of embracing German young men in our efforts for the increase of Associations, the character and success of such as have been heretofore made, and the best plans for the further prosecution of this work.
7. The Associations of America, not simply isolated organizations engaged in a local work, but charged also with the duty of a large and important service, in the Saviour's name, for each other, and for the young men of the whole continent.
8. How can the work of Associations be most successfully carried on in the smaller towns?

The attention of the officers of each Association is particularly requested to the report for the Convention, a blank form for which is herewith transmitted. This should be returned, properly filled up, as early as June first. Every Association should make some report before that day. It has heretofore been insisted by some opposed to our Societies that they exist only upon paper, inasmuch as so many fail to report to the Annual Conventions. It is hoped that the brethren will see to it that the ground for this objection is removed.

The brethren at Indianapolis are doing all in their power to promote the success of the Convention. Their welcome to the delegates will be hearty, for the Saviour's sake, and much good is anticipated by them from the gathering, for their own Association, for their citizens, and for the Associations of the State.

All the surroundings of the Associations as regards both their local and their general service, conspire to demand that the Indianapolis Convention surpass all its predecessors—excellent as they have been—in the number of societies represented, in the character, power and conduct of the delegates, and in the prudence, dignity, and above all, in the spirituality of the proceedings. As touching all these things the responsibility is primarily with the Associations, and they should see to it that their representatives be such as will render the best possible service in the cause whose interests call us together.

Fraternally yours,

CEPHAS BRAINERD,
WILLIAM F. LEE,
JAMES STOKES, JR.,
TIMOTHY G. SELLEW, JR.,
ROBERT R. MCBURNEY,
EDGAR A. HUTCHINGS,
BENJAMIN C. WETMORE,

Executive
Committee.

ROOMS YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION,
CORNER PENNSYLVANIA AND MARKET STREETS,
INDIANAPOLIS, MAY 17TH, 1870.

ry of the Y. M. C. A.,

THE, —The Executive Committee have already informed you of the Fifteenth Annual Convention. We sincerely hope that you will be fully represented at the Convention, to be held in our city next week in June. We shall take pleasure in providing entertainment for all who come as delegates, and assure such of a sincere welcome at our homes.

The Committee on Entertainment have secured a room at the Union Railway Depot. Upon arrival, all Delegates are desired to present themselves, and be provided for them without delay, and before they leave the Depot. If you prefer to go to a hotel, we would state, that arrangements have been made with the Proprietors of the Bates House, (which has been refitted and entire), by which their terms for Delegates will be \$2.50 per

day. The Convention will be held in the Academy of Music, corner Madison and Illinois Streets. The Reception Social on the evening of Wednesday, June 26th, and the Farewell Meeting on Sabbath evening, June 26th.

We respectfully request that *no badge of distinction* be worn by Delegates at the Academy upon the evening of the reception. Members of the Convention will wear a white ribbon at the depot, so as to be easily recognized, but any further use of it is not deemed advisable.

Therefore, we pray you not only to be fully represented at the Convention, but with your hearts full of love for the work—the glorious work of the Christian Association. Pray earnestly for the blessing and guidance of the Holy Spirit, without whose blessing all our deliberations and work will be in vain. We are fully resolved to *do* all the good you can, and to *get* all the good

possible. We send the following statement of arrangements with railroads to your attention and study.

Yours in Christian Bonds,

JOHN DIXON,
JOHN B. BRANDT, } *Committee of Arrangements.*
B. F. WITT,

The Executive Committee regret they cannot present more convenient plans for delegates and friends on their way to our "Railroad City," but are constrained by the dictates and decisions made by the various lines of transit. Arranging traveling arrangements have been made, and we ask that attention be given to each specification, to avoid trouble to delegates, and to ourselves.

Under head "A" will transport delegates to the Convention at full fare on the line going, and return them free, if they show the "Transportation Ticket" of T. H. K. Enos, Secretary.

Under head "B" will issue excursion, or round trip tickets over the lines of the Association. Delegates presenting "Orders for Excursion Tickets," said orders will be issued by this Association before they leave home.

A

Alexandria, Loudon and Hampshire; Baltimore and Ohio (to Columbus Ohio); Chicago, Danville and Vincennes; Columbus and Hocking Valley; Cincinnati and Indianapolis Junction; Cleveland, Zanesville and Cincinnati; Camden and Atlantic; Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati and Indianapolis; Charlotte, Columbia and Augusta; Des Moines Valley; European and North American of Maine; European and North American of Canada; Erie and Pittsburg; Evansville, Henderson and Nashville; Florida; Florida Central and Tallahassee; Indianapolis and Vincennes; Lake Erie and Louisville; Louisville, Cincinnati and Lexington; Mississippi Central; Memphis and Charleston; Mississippi and Tennessee; North Missouri; New-York, Providence and Boston; North Eastern (South Carolina); New-York and Oswego Midland; Pacific (of Missouri); Rockford, Rock Island and St. Louis; Richmond, Danville and Piedmont (Virginia); St. Joseph and Council Bluffs; Seaboard and Roanoke; Sioux City and Pacific; South Side of Long Island; Terre Haute and Indianapolis; Toledo, Peoria and Warsaw; West Jersey.

B

Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific; Catawissa; Central Branch Union Pacific; Delaware, Lackawanna and Western; Dayton and Union; Grand Trunk (of Canada); Hannibal and St. Joseph; Indianapolis, Cincinnati and Lafayette; Lehigh Valley; North Central (Baltimore) for *local* travel; Pittsburg, Fort Wayne and Chicago; "Pan Handle Route," (P. C. and St. L. Railway; Philadelphia and Erie; Pennsylvania Railroad (for *local* passengers); Reading (Pennsylvania); St. Lawrence and Ottawa (of Canada); St. Louis and Iron Mountain; Winona and St. Peter.

THROUGH.

Round trip tickets (via Pennsylvania Road) will be sold at New-York for \$34; at Philadelphia, for \$30.40; at Baltimore, for \$28.70; and at Harrisburg, for \$26.15, to Indianapolis and return, any day, from June 18th to 22d, and good to return until July 2d, 1870.

MISCELLANEOUS.

1. Boston and Providence will sell 50 or more round trip tickets to one person for \$7 each, by Stonington Line (boat), or \$8.50 each via Shore Line (all rail), from Boston to New-York and return.

2. Chicago and Northwestern will return delegates at one-fifth the regular fare, if they present the certificate of T. H. K. Enos, at the Office of the Company, corner of Lake and Clark Streets, Chicago.

3. Chicago, Cincinnati and Louisville, will give to delegates who show their credentials, a return ticket free, to be good only when endorsed by T. H. K. Enos. Be sure to ask for it of the officers of the road, or the agent you buy your ticket from.

4. Great Western (of Canada). Full fare going, and return for one-fourth the usual rate, on presentation of the certificate of T. H. K. Enos.

5. Kentucky Central, will sell round trip tickets from Nicholasville, Lexington, Paris and Cynthiaana, to Covington only, at one fare, to those who show credentials.

6. Louisville and Nashville, and Memphis and Louisville, will furnish a free return ticket to all delegates purchasing tickets from Memphis, Humboldt,

and Bowling Green, to Indianapolis—good only when endorsed by Enos.

Indianapolis and Indianapolis (J., M. and I.) same as No. 3.

Indianapolis, New Albany and Chicago, will sell excursion tickets, at any rate full fare; the purchaser to retain the same, which will return him

High Coal and Navigation Co.—Orders for excursion tickets will be those who are entitled to them, by J. A. Dinkey, Esq., G. F. and T. A., Shank, Pennsylvania, upon application to him.

Long Beach.—Upon application to G. W. Beach, Esq., Superintendent, orders over this road will be granted to Delegates.

Indianapolis and Decatur, same as No. 3.

North Pennsylvania will issue excursion tickets at two-thirds the regular fare in their principal stations to Philadelphia and return, upon proper application being presented.

Old Colony and Newport will sell tickets from Boston to New-York and return \$8, to those presenting orders for same from T. H. K. Enos, good from June 21st to 25th inclusive going, and 25th to 30th inclusive returning.

Pennsylvania Steamboat Line will sell round trip tickets from Boston to New-York at \$7 each, to parties of fifty or more; (regular fare \$5 each way.)

St. Louis, Vandalia and Terre Haute will issue round trip tickets at full fare from St. Louis to Indianapolis and return, and other points that may be desired.

Wilmington and Manchester (North Carolina), will endorse on the ticket purchased, "Delegate and return," which, with certificate of T. H. K. Enos, will return the holder free.

Western and Atlantic—Same as No. 3.

It will be seen, it is necessary that Delegates be provided with credentials, to profit by the arrangements for reduced fares; therefore, the Committee earnestly request your Association to select Delegates immediately upon receipt of this circular, and without delay send to T. H. K. Enos the name of the Delegate so elected, and the route by which he will reach Indianapolis, and the name of the station from which he will start. We will then send to the Delegate the required "order for excursion tickets."

DELEGATES.—Always, when purchasing tickets, tell the Agent you are on your way to the Convention, and show him your papers, so as to expedite matters and avoid errors.

None but fully accredited Delegates, and specially invited guests, can avail themselves of the benefit of the above mentioned arrangements.

We are anxious that all Delegates be present at the organization of the Convention and reception social, and to this end advise brethren from New-York to make it a point to be in New-York City in time to take the Monday train for this place, thus reaching here by Wednesday, June 22d, in time for the Opening Exercises.

Truly yours, in brotherly love and with sincerity,

T. A. MORRIS, } Committee on
T. H. K. ENOS, } Transportation.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS
OF THE UNITED STATES AND BRITISH PROVINCES,
28d St., COR. OF 4th AVE., NEW-YORK CITY. }

To the Young Men's Christian Association of

BRETHREN,—Allow us again to request that the proper Officer of your Society fill up and return, at once, the blank report forwarded to you some time since. All are anxious to have the Associations make the best possible showing at Indianapolis; and nothing will contribute more to this result than the receipt of all the reports before the meeting of the Convention. We beg you not to neglect this matter, for the service you can render, by reporting promptly, is very great.

Please forward, by the Chairman of your Delegation, the enclosed blank filled up with the names of your Delegates, distinctly written; instruct him to write after the name of each, the fact of attendance or absence, and to hand the same to the Chairman of the Committee on Credentials, as soon as called for.

In behalf of the Committee, I am sincerely yours,

CEPHAS BRAINERD, *Chairman.*

31st May, '70.

The following persons are accredited as Delegates to the Indianapolis Convention from the Y. M. C. A. of
State of

Recording Secretary.

NEW-YORK, *June 6th*, 1870.

DEAR SIR,—Tickets will be issued to Delegates to the Y. M. C. A. Convention over the Erie Railroad, at the following rates:

<i>From Boston to Indianapolis and return,</i>	-	-	\$32.00
<i>From New-York</i>	"	"	25.00

These tickets will be ready on the fifteenth inst.—Will be good going Westward until the 24th inst., returning Eastward until July 10th, inclusive. They can be purchased at 124 Washington Street, Boston; and cor. Broadway and 23d Street, New-York. Will be issued to members and their friends, but will not be transferable.

Each Delegate should be furnished with one of the enclosed blanks, filled up in due form, to be shown to the Ticket Agent.

It is also required that the SECRETARY OF EACH ASSOCIATION send three copies of his signature to Mr. John N. Abbott, Passenger Agent of the Erie Railway Co., cor. 23d St. and 8th Avenue, New-York.

It is essential that the Secretary or President of each Association attend promptly to this matter, and thus avoid mistakes or confusion.

We trust this arrangement will prove a pleasant one for our Delegates, and increase the attendance at the Convention.

Yours, &c.,

EDGAR A. HUTCHINS, *Sec. Executive Com.*

RULES OF THE CONVENTION.

Order of each day's proceedings shall be as follows :

Exercises—Reading of Minutes—Calls for Resolutions, Memorials and Proposing of Communications—Reports of Standing Committees—Reports of Committees—Unfinished Business.

Immediately after the organization is completed, the President shall appoint the following Committees, each to consist of seven members :

Committee on Associations, to which shall be referred all matters touching the Association in its individual and united action.

Committee, to whom shall be referred all business of a general nature.

Committee on the Report of the Executive Committee.

Committee on Public and Devotional Meetings.

The Convention may refer any business to a Special Committee, or to the Committee at its pleasure.

Three members of each Committee shall be appointed by the President at the opening session. Resolutions, memorials and propositions shall be handed, on or before the second day of the Convention, each paper to contain the name of the proposer and the Association he represents. These resolutions to be at once referred to the Committee without reading.

At the appointment of the Committees, memorials, resolutions and propositions shall be referred by the President, without action or debate, to a Standing Committee. The Convention shall refer the same to a Select Committee, or to the Committee of the Whole. This rule of reference shall apply to all business brought before the Convention such as is incidental in its character.

The Convention, at any time, may resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, and in that form, any proposition or matter appertaining to the Associations, to develop the experience of the Associations and the opinions of Delegates shall be brought under consideration; and at the close of its discussions thereon, the Committee shall report its conclusions to the Convention for its action; the report to be permitted for such reference to the Committee of the Whole, by the Standing Committee, whose jurisdiction the matter under discussion relates, unless the Committee shall appoint a Special Committee to prepare and submit the report.

The Committee shall sit while the Convention is in session, without special permission.

Committees shall be appointed by the Chair, unless otherwise ordered; and shall be referred to them, unless otherwise instructed, previous to the last business of the Convention.

Reports of Committees shall be numbered and placed upon a docket, and brought in order in Convention, except such as shall be referred to the Committee of the Whole.

No member shall speak more than once on any question, until others who wish have done so; and no speech shall exceed ten minutes, without unanimous consent; and this rule shall prevail in the Committee of the Whole.

Propositions shall be reduced to writing, before they are put to vote.

A vote, when desired by five members of different Associations, on any proposition, shall be taken by yeas and nays, and recorded. In such cases, each Association shall be entitled to one vote, which shall be cast by a majority of its Delegates present.

On any question, it shall always be in order to move that the debate close, and the question shall be put without discussion in this form: "Shall the question be now

The Convention may at any time suspend the rules for a specified object, by a vote of the members present.

Members of the Executive Committee, the Corresponding Members thereof, and members of the Lecture Bureau shall be entitled to seats in the Convention as Delegates.

LIST OF GENERAL CONVENTIONS.

PLACE.	DATE.	PRESIDENT.
BUFFALO	7th June, 1854.....	GEO. W. HELME.
CINCINNATI.....	19th Sept., 1855.....	WM. C. LANGDON.
MONTREAL.....	19th June, 1856.....	WILLIAM H. NEFF.
RICHMOND.....	21st May, 1857.....	N. A. HALBERT.
CHARLESTON.....	17th April, 1858.....	FRED. A. SHELDON.
TROY.....	13th July, 1859.....	GEORGE H. STUART.
NEW ORLEANS....	11th April, 1860.....	WM. P. MUNFORD.
NEW-YORK.....	14th Nov., 1861.....	GEORGE H. STUART.
CHICAGO.....	4th June, 1863.....	GEORGE H. STUART.
BOSTON.....	1st June, 1864.....	JOSEPH A. POND.
PHILADELPHIA...	17th June, 1865.....	CEPHAS BRAINERD.
ALBANY.....	2d June, 1866.....	H. THANE MILLER.
MONTREAL.....	19th June, 1867.....	H. THANE MILLER.
DETROIT.....	24th June, 1868.....	H. THANE MILLER.
PORTLAND.....	14th July, 1869.....	WM. E. DODGE, JR.
INDIANAPOLIS....	22d June, 1870.....	JOHN S. MACLEAN.

Proceedings of the Convention.

INDIANAPOLIS, *June 22, 1870.*

gates to the Fifteenth Annual Convention of the Young
stian Associations of the United States and of the
vinces convened in this city to-day, at the call of the
Committee.

meeting was held in the Academy of Music, and was
der at ten o'clock A. M., in the absence of the Presi-
last Convention. (Wm. E. Dodge, Jr.,) by Mr. JOHN
N, of Halifax, Nova Scotia, the first Vice-President.
r. H. K. Edson, of Indianapolis, offered up the in-
rayer, after which Mr. H. Beach, Jr., of Pawtucket,
lected Temporary Secretary.

gates then joined in singing four stanzas of the hymn
g "We meet again in gladness," at the conclusion of
Rev. Dr. Holliday read a portion of the 15th chapter
and the Rev. S. B. Barnitz of Wheeling, W. Va., led in

irman then read the following letter :

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION }
OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK. }
NEW-YORK, *June 18, 1870.* }

Send :

regret that the results of a painful railroad accident will deprive
at pleasure of being present at Indianapolis.
confidence placed in me at Portland, would have made it my duty
porary Chairman of the Convention during its organization. As
sident of the last Convention this will now fall upon you.
will explain to the dear Christian brethren, whom I had so earn-
to meet, the reasons of my absence.
n so cheered and strengthened by these meetings, and so enjoyed
Christian fellowship, that my disappointment is very great.
Saviour has so evidently helped the work and progress of the
during the past year, that the Convention, if blessed with His
spirit, can be a great power for good.
hope its *whole time* will be given to the one simple object of per-

fecting plans for bringing young men to Christ, and to the study of means for their best social and intellectual development.

With earnest prayers for a spirit of harmony and love in the Convention,
I am, very affectionately yours,

WM. E. DODGE, Jr.

J. S. MACLEAN, Esq.

Mr. Maclean then said :

Christian friends, this letter explains to you why your beloved President is absent, and also why I am in his position. Perhaps it might be well for me to say further why I am here, being a British subject, taking temporary charge of this Convention. But I need not, for a great many of you are quite well acquainted with me, and in our communing together we have enjoyed such delights and been so blessed, as to convince us that there is no nationality in this Convention, but that we are all one in Christ Jesus. I have come here (sent by the Halifax Association) to be blessed, as we ever have been in the past ; and my brethren are anxiously awaiting my return, hoping that I will return bearing with me a blessing. For this purpose we are all here, and by invoking the Divine blessing we may be enabled to carry out His purposes for them. The strength of the Associations you know better than I can tell you. In Nova Scotia we have increased fifty-fold by mingling with you. Our brethren from Ontario and Quebec can tell you of the work going on there. You, brethren of the United States, have imparted to us what zeal we may possess, and we look to you for increased energy. If any of your Associations are cold and backward, pray that you may be so blessed while here, that you will return filled with the Holy Spirit, and infuse renewed warmth into them to continue the work.

By special request, H. Thane Miller, of Cincinnati, led in prayer, that the affliction which deprived the Convention of their President's presence might be blessed to the good of all.

On motion of F. J. Cressey, of Des Moines, Iowa, it was

Resolved, That a Committee on Permanent Organization be appointed, to consist of one Delegate from each State, District, Territory and Province represented.

On motion of J. D. Blake, of Rochester, Minn., it was

Resolved, That a Committee of Seven be appointed to examine the credentials of Delegates and Corresponding Members, and prepare a list of the same.

On motion of John H. Cheever, of Cincinnati, it was

Resolved, That the Rules of the last Convention be adopted for the government of this Convention, until otherwise ordered.

William Edsall, of Brooklyn, moved to amend, by adding that Resolutions be read before their reference to the appropriate Committee.

J. J. Cree, of Pittsburg; Moses W. Pond, of Boston; J. Hinckley, Jr., of Philadelphia, opposed the motion, and on being put it was lost.

motion of A. P. Browne, of Philadelphia, it was

Resolved, That the Members of the Press present, the Clergymen of Indian- other Clergymen present, and also all members of Associations accredited as Delegates, be constituted Corresponding Members of this Convention.

motion of Alfred Wicks, of Brooklyn, it was

Resolved, That a Temporary Committee on Business be appointed, consisting of five members, to whom all matters of business shall be referred until a permanent organization shall have been effected.

By unanimous vote, W. Howard Doane, of Cincinnati, was elected to lead the singing of the Convention.

The Chairman then announced the Committees under the foregoing resolutions, as follows:

Committee on Permanent Organization.

Washington, D. C.,	M. S. Crosby, Michigan,
Indiana,	Geo. B. Davis, Vermont,
Penn.,	George Hague, Ontario,
Quebec, L.L.D.,	F. J. Cressey, Iowa,
Maine,	C. S. Littlefield, Mass.,
Maryland,	E. W. Spencer, Ill.,
Missouri,	J. B. Pearsons, N. H.,
N. J.,	Thomas P. Bloomfield, R. I.,
Wis.,	W. H. Blanchard, N. Scotia,
Neb.,	Rev. W. Bowditch, Conn.,
N. Y.,	J. Willits, W. Va.,
S. C.,	H. Thane Miller, Ohio,
Dalagher, Minn.,	A. Whitney, Cal.

Committee on Credentials.

Minn.,	N. W. Johnson, N. J.,
Ohio,	C. M. Blackman, Wis.,
Ill.,	J. Otis Stillman, Iowa,
	Dabney Carr, Conn.

Committee on Temporary Business.

N. Y.,	W. H. Irwin, W. Va.,
Ohio,	L. P. Rowland, Jr., Mass.,
Ill.,	Rev. Shepherd Wells, Mo.,
	W. E. M. James, Ontario.

On motion of R. R. McBurney, of New-York, leave was granted the several Committees to retire. The interval was occupied by the Delegates in devotional exercises.

Soon afterward the Committee on permanent organization returned, and through their Chairman, Hon. S. S. Fisher, of Washington, reported,

For President.

JOHN S. MACLEAN, of Halifax, Nova Scotia.

For Vice-Presidents.

Hon. S. S. FISHER, Washington, D. C.	ANDREW J. CHASE, Portland, Me.
Rev. C. H. SPAULDING, Pawtucket, R. I.	A. WHITNEY, San Francisco, Cal.
H. J. COWLES, Madison, Wisconsin.	B. F. JACOBS, Chicago, Ill.
JOHN W. RAY, Indianapolis, Ind.	JNO. C. BARTRAM, St. Louis, Mo.
GEO. H. STUART, Philadelphia, Penn.	Rev. GEO. DOUGLAS. L. L. D., Mon-
JNO. H. CHEEVER, Cincinnati, Ohio.	treal, Quebec.
C. E. CHICHESTER, Charleston, S. C.	GEORGE HAGUE, Toronto, Ontario.

For Secretary.

ALFRED WICKS, Brooklyn, New-York.

For Assistant Secretaries.

D. C. BELL, Minneapolis, Minn.
C. G. SWENBERG, Grand Rapids, Mich.

On motion of the Hon. S. S. Fisher, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, John S. Maclean was elected by acclamation whereupon the President elect, said,

DEAR BRETHREN: I feel utterly unable to express my gratitude to this Convention, not so much for myself, but for my brethren from the other side. It was because you wanted to express the feeling of your heart toward Canada. I know that the compliment will be felt and acknowledged by our Canadian brethren. I know that this wonderful kindness of yours, in selecting a president from among the few delegates who come from Canada, will be appreciated by them.

BRETHREN: I *cannot* accept this office without God's guidance, and your sympathy and prayers; but relying upon your love I accept the position, and trusting to that, I accept with great joy and gratitude to you. In the discharge of the duties of the Chair, I wish not to err, and if I do, brethren, it will be the head and not of the heart.

The other officers named were unanimously elected, excepting the Secretary. Mr. Wicks declined to serve, whereupon, Rob

ey, of Philadelphia, was elected Secretary of the Con-

mittee on Business reported, recommending that this
 adjourn at 12 M., to meet at 2:30 P. M., for devotional
 in the First Baptist Church; that at 3 o'clock the
 meeting commence, to terminate at 5:30 P. M.; that at
 the following question be discussed: "Have any
 declined, and if so, why?"—the opening speaker to
 fifteen minutes, and those following five minutes each.
 the Rev. W. W. Bowditch, of Conn., had invoked Divine
 for the President elect, the Rev. Mr. Campbell, of Nova
 pronounced the Benediction, and the Convention adjourned
 P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

P. M. the Convention met in the audience room of the
 Baptist Church, for devotional exercises, led by K. A. Bur-
 nall, Ill.

o'clock the President took the chair, and the regular
 as commenced by the singing of the hymn—

"Come Thou Fount of every Blessing,"

led by the Rev. T. M. Eddy, D.D., of Baltimore, Md., led

minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

President then announced the following Standing Com-

ON EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

oy, Grand Rapids, Michigan.	H. G. O. Carey, Zanesville, Ohio.
Cree, Pittsburg, Pa.	J. C. Batchelor, Scranton, Pa.
en, Providence, R. I.	O. B. Douglass, Burlington, Vermont.

DEVOTIONAL AND OPEN-AIR MEETINGS.

tlefield, South Boston, Mass.	Shepherd Wells, St. Louis, Mo.
l, Washington, D. C.	N. A. Starke, Troy, N. Y.
t, Indianapolis, Ind.	K. A. Burnell, Aurora, Illinois.
Robert Weidensall, Omaha, Nebraska.	

ON BUSINESS.

H. K. Porter, Pittsburg, Pa.	Colgate Hoyt, Cleveland, Ohio.
L. P. Rowland, Jr., Boston, Mass.	Robert Irwin, Missouri.
D. L. Moody, Chicago, Ill.	William Reynolds, Peoria, Ill.
George E. Davis, Burlington, Vermont.	

ON RESOLUTIONS.

Alfred Wicks, Brooklyn, N. Y.	Charles F. Coffin, Richmond, Indiana.
E. L. Taylor, Columbus, Ohio.	

Francis S. Driscoll, of Brooklyn, offered a resolution respecting the Rules of the Convention, which was referred to the Committee on Business.

After singing the hymn,

"O, for a closer walk with God,"

George H. Stuart, of Philadelphia, said,

He had been impressed deeply with the conviction that the brethren had come imbued more than ever with the power of God's Holy Spirit. Now, that Associations are multiplying rapidly, there is danger lest we rely more upon our numerical strength than upon God's Spirit. He would give the Convention this motto to inscribe above the President's head, until the close of the Convention—*"Not by might nor by Power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord."* Coming together actuated by this spirit, they might expect such a revival as had not been witnessed since the time of George Whitefield.

After William Stickney, of Washington, had led in prayer, the Convention sang,

"Come Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove."

On motion of George E. Lovejoy, of Lowell, Mass., it was

Resolved, That the Scriptural passage, suggested by Mr. Stuart, be adopted as the motto of this Convention.

John Dixon, of Indianapolis, Ind., Chairman of the local General Committee of Arrangements, announced the programme for the Social Reception at the Academy of Music. He also announced that the Committee on Entertainment would be at the Academy in the morning to provide all Delegates homes who had not been provided for.

The Convention then proceeded to the discussion of the first topic,

"Have any of the Associations declined, and if so, Why?"

Alfred Wicks, of Brooklyn, Chairman of the Temporary Business Committee, said,

opening the discussion had devolved upon him, because of the F. Jacobs, of Chicago, who had been assigned to the leadership. Starting this question was, to ascertain the causes which led to so and, by thus acquiring experience, endeavor to find the requisite felt to be one of the first interests that the Convention should of failure. They desired to hear from those representing Associations struggling for bare life, why they were so situated. There were Associations which, like the one in the great city of Troy, had died remembered, that when the Convention met in Troy, that Association was regarded as a model. The Convention wished to know the reason of that their course might be avoided; and also, they wished to have success pointed out.

Mr. Mott, of Warren, Pa.,

spoke of an Association that was struggling more or less to keep alive. The trouble was in having too many honorary members, and not sufficient members. Some of the members were anxious to work. They were in the jail, but it did not contain any prisoners. They were able to relieve the poor, but could not find any destitute in their town. They had come to the Convention to learn how their members were to work. During the winter their Association prospered, but in the summer it perished.

Mr. McBurney, Mr. Mott stated that the population of the town was about 2,500 or 3,000, and, in reply to another, who asked how the town were converted, said: "We are a church-going town, but I presume many are unconverted. The members of the M. C. Association are converted men, and I hope the unconverted will be."

Mr. McMillan, of Slippery Rock, Penn., said that the want of leaders was the chief cause of failure. Leaders who would go forward who hung back, were an imperative necessity. There must be made to feel that he could do something, and would warm up others. He represented a country where there had not experienced any trouble in continuing. He knew of some Associations that had failed because they could not countenance them.

Mr. Wilkinson, of Washington, told of an Association,

which had been killed by hiring a missionary to do the work of the members. When the member worked, then the Association prospered; but when the missionary to do the work, it failed. Such Associations had better be left alone to work. He believed in the glorious idea of "young men for the mission." He had heard of a mission agency in Providence, R. I., that counted on young men. That is the proper kind of missionary work.

The Associations should convince the churches that it is not intended to duplicate machinery ; also, there should not be a hell-hole into which these young men would not go to rescue a sinner.

Wm. Edsall, of Brooklyn, thought this one of the most vital questions likely to be brought to their attention. He sincerely believed that they had too many "honorary" members. He knew of members who had not attended any of the Association meetings for months, and these he also would call "honorary" members. He likewise knew of Presidents who sadly neglected their duty and would advise Associations so afflicted to obtain the resignations of these officers.

The Convention joined in singing,

"On to the battle field."

J. D. Stroud, Chester, Penn., thought it possible for an Association to die out while waiting for a leader. They ought not to wait for a leader, but each man should enter upon the work feeling confident that God would raise up a leader.

J. G. Bergen, Baltimore, said,

That in some large cities, by districting the members of the Association into agencies for distributing tracts, they had taken the place of the American Tract Society. Was that their work? In Baltimore, last winter, they had expended hundreds of dollars in helping the poor widows and orphans; and yet, in the city of 400,000, had they expended the money in helping young men who were destitute and unfortunate, they would have done equally as much, if not more good. In some cases the Associations are thought to be failures, because they neglect their own work and perform that of other societies.

Prof. W. O. Hiskey, of Minneapolis, Minn., said that their Association, though not dead, was in great fear of death. It lacked fire, and at their last meeting it was said that some one must be sent to the Convention who would return imbued with a zealous fire. He thought that if every member would carry home the fire that burns, and the zeal that stimulates to Christian exertion, the efficiency of the Associations would be doubled.

II. J. Cowles, of Wisconsin,

Had had experience in failures of Associations. One great cause was a surplus of machinery—too much attempted to be done. And, then, many small Associations attempted to rival the large and powerful ones. They must have finely furnished rooms, to which feature they paid more attention than to the work of saving souls. Fine rooms and libraries do not make Young Men

associations, and ensure success ; but it is the frequent gathering of hearts burn for the salvation of young men. Let each and all get set right on this subject, and return to convince the young men of towns that they must dispense with so much machinery, and comfortably.

r. Hascall, of Aurora, Ill., said,

consisted in seeking the best object, and then using the best means sh that object. There never had been an hour in the history of the a young men have thrown upon them such a responsibility, in re work which is not met by the churches, and cannot be, at least as w managed. In Aurora their Association was full of interest, be l been thrice raised from the dead. The determination to erect an building had revived them.

acobs, of Chicago, said,

associations die because they are afraid of a little success. Although at it is not the work of certain persons to do the work of societies, is approved of God, it must be the purpose for which the Associa- uted. They are afraid of stepping beyond the boundary. No man knew exactly what God wanted him to do ; therefore, he must daily for guidance. If the Association in any town, with united hearts, me plan to reach one young man, and that youth was reached and ould be a guaranty of success that God had approved the effort. he Churches wanted the Associations to do—to stand as the ambas- d in the line in which the Churches could not work.

W. Glass, Baltimore, thought some Associations failed very member was not given something to do. In Balti- m their Association was languishing, they put eighteen n on tract distributing, and in various ways gave each omething to do. The result was that the Association again.

nos. Marshall, St. Louis, Mo., believed that the complaints inisters and young men not working arose from want of life. There are no greater complainers than backsliders.

Simons, Philadelphia, Pa., feared too much would be he idea that we were supplanting other societies in their e thought it charity to help others to carry their load. ver was a poor fellow struggling under a burden who glad to have some one help him. And so, if the A. had nothing local to do, and they engaged in outside ong as Christ is imprinted on the work, it will prosper.

Two stanzas of the hymn commencing

"Our Captain leads us on "

were then sung, after which

Thomas J. Wilkie, of Toronto, Ont., urged that failures sometimes arose from their attempting too much and striving to get along too fast. It is better to start in a small way. In the Toronto Association they started with thirteen young men, began in a basement room, and waited until they were strong before they went up-stairs. When young men are won to Christ they should be set to work, and thus by degrees the Association will grow and become prosperous.

C. J. Littlefield, South Boston, belonged to an Association that had had a sort of decline last year and was again prosperous. Their trouble was the constantly recurring question of finances, especially how to pay the rent; so they concluded to take a smaller room and let the principal question be where to hold the next prayer meeting. Having got rid of the finance question, they commenced out-door meetings.

Rev. S. B. Barnitz, Wheeling, W. Va., was reminded of an Association that admitted as members all men of good moral character. The result was, that when the zealous members wished to hold a prayer meeting, the others said they did not wish to sing psalms and pray all the time. That Association died, "clean gone dead." Then it was decided to admit only good active members of Evangelical churches, after which a revival was experienced.

K. A. Burnell, of Aurora, Ill., knew of several Associations that were weak through lack of leading influence. The Presidents were never seen in the prayer meetings. They were mere figureheads. No one would respect such Associations, because they had no one to map out the work or look up to as a leader.

By request, H. Thane Miller and W. Howard Doane sang the invitation to the prodigal, "Come Home."

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported that two open-air meetings would be held in the evening at seven o'clock, the one to be led by P. B. Simons of Philadelphia and the other by Geo. A. Hall of Washington.

Committee reported, but on motion of H. Thane report was recommitted, and the Committee directed to report at the Evening Session.

On arising on the meaning of the rule respecting resolution of Alfred Wicks it was agreed that the rule be so amended as to give until the close of Friday's meeting for the presentation of resolutions, memorials and propositions in the afternoon.

On the announcement of the evening's programme, the delegates singing, Rev. C. H. Spaulding, of Pawtucket, R. I., presiding, and the Convention adjourned.

WELCOME MEETING.

The Afternoon Session was being held in the First Church, the beautiful Academy of Music had been most elaborately decorated and fitted up for the reception to be extended to the Delegates by the Citizens of Indianapolis.

Governor of the State, Hon. Conrad Baker, presided, assisted on the platform by Hon. D. Macauley, Mayor of Indianapolis, the local Clergy, and by J. S. Maclean, President of the Convention, H. Thane Miller, Geo. H. Stuart, and others. A choir of 75 or 80 ladies and gentlemen, under the direction of Mr. Black, were ranged in semi-circular form on the rear platform.

After eight o'clock, Governor Baker advanced to the platform, and, after requesting the vast audience to be seated, said:

Gentlemen, my Christian Friends and Brethren:

I have the portion of the duties which have been assigned to me to deliver over this meeting, I beg to tender to the Delegates of the Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces, welcome on the part of the people of Indiana, and to assure them that our people will co-operate with them in the good work in which they are engaged. We declare our belief in the infallibility of Christian love. We welcome you to this meeting as one of the grand means of bringing together Christian

people, and if they shall not unify Christian faith, they will at least strengthen the bonds of Christian brotherhood.

I do not come here to detain you by remarks of my own, but simply to pronounce these few words of welcome, and to announce the programme.

The choir then sang, "Before Jehovah's Awful Throne;" after which the Rev. R. D. Robinson, D.D., of Ind., led in prayer.

Rev. Robert Sloss, of Ind., read the parable of the "Prodigal Son," and the Choir sang the chorus from "Creation," "The Heavens are Telling." After which,

The Hon. D. Macauley, Mayor of the City, spoke as follows:

Mr. President and Members of the Convention :

In behalf of our municipal authorities and of all our citizens—in behalf of all the Christian denominations of our city, whose beautiful places of public worship so nobly decorate it like so many altars erected in the name of the living God and consecrated to His holy service—in behalf of all these I bid you, from every State and land, welcome, not only to this magnificent building, adorned with beauty and splendor for your pleasure and delight, but I bid you, one and all, a hearty, earnest and friendly welcome to the City of Indianapolis.

In this Convention, composed of delegates from all the different and multitudinous Christian sects, consulting how best to know and perform the great work set for us by our Creator, wherein we are taught not only how to live, but how to die, there is something grand and inspiring even to one who, like myself, can claim to be but a friend and well-wisher of the great cause, a looker-on as it were, in Christendom. I see that while the disciples of Christianity are marshalled under different leaders, they are but divisions of the one grand and united army, bearing aloft over all the radiant and spotless banner of our Christ, and which army, marching along conquering and to conquer, is destined yet to triumph over all the powers of ignorance, and misery and sin, purifying and illuminating the whole earth, until it shall again bloom into a very paradise, such as God Himself pronounced "good" when the morning stars sang together upon creation's dawn. For the Young Men's Christian Association, formed of members of every Christian denomination, there is much to do, a great work to perfect—the establishment of the unity of all the churches in Christ, so that while they may be "different like the crested waves, they shall be like the ocean, all be one."

Men have speculated and theorized about systems and beliefs. Philosophers have sounded the depths of all accumulated worldly wisdom. Science, with the geological pick and hammer, has penetrated the earth's centre, or with the telescope swept the vast expanse of suns and stars uncounted. Yet all theories, all learning, all science of earth and skies, of doctrines and systems, of time and space, cannot satisfy the longings of the immortal soul to be joined to its source and centre as do the simple teachings of the Saviour of mankind.

The heathen points in vain to his carved idols to teach us the home of the immortal soul. The doctrines of Confucius strive in vain to lift us up to God. The splendid mythologies of ancient Greece and Rome may charm the intellect, but cannot save the immortal soul of man. Moslemism promises a heaven

delights. The cruelties of the Aztec sacrifice sicken and disgust the heart of nature herself chills the heart, for it denies to us a heroic religion of Christ alone, rightly interpreted and practiced in the love and charity, is a religion to live by and to die by, a religion to die for, satisfying the spiritual wants of all God's chosen people, filling the highest aspirations of the most imperious intellect of the world, bearing all who have faith in Him into the bosom of the Father.

I welcome you to our city, and "God speed" in whatsoever you do. Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are of good report, these do, then your meeting shall tend to the spreading of the Gospel to all the world, and help to glorify God by the elevation of man!

I cannot, with my own consent, close my remarks and again take up my tendering, in this public manner and in this presence, my thanks to the Young Men's Christian Association of this city for its patient and kind attention among us. During the past three years, the duties of my office have been so painfully shown me much of the misery and suffering existing in this city. This Association, with its worthy agent, Mr. J. B. Brandt, has been so kind, and so helped all classes and conditions of men, as to reflect credit upon every Association of the name in existence.

The love and gratitude of our citizens and of the city are due them, and it is my duty to fulfil what I consider to be a duty in thus saying so.

Wm. H. Day, D.D., of Indianapolis, then delivered the address of welcome on behalf of the churches of the city, expressing the sympathy of the churches with the Young Men's Christian Association in their undertakings.

On account of the illness of Col. John W. Ray, President of the Young Men's Association, the Rev. John B. Brandt, Superintendent of the Association, acted as his substitute in the delivery of a brief address on behalf of the Indianapolis Association.

After the addresses having thus been concluded, the President of the Convention, Mr. J. S. Maclean, was called upon to deliver the address. Mr. Maclean expressed regret at the absence of Wm. W. Phelps, Jr., of New-York, who was announced by the local Association to deliver the first responsive address. He adverted to the object of the Convention, saying that it represented a large number of young men, who are banded together everywhere to glorify in Jesus and lead young men to love Him, and closed his address by acknowledging the remarkable hospitalities already shown to the delegates.

The choir sang "All Hail the Power of Jesus' name," after which Thane Miller, of Cincinnati, being called upon, said,

To the Governor of Indiana, the Mayor of Indianapolis, the Clergy and Young Men's Christian Association of this city, and especially to you, dear ladies and gentlemen dwelling in this beautiful and most hospitable place, esteem it a great honor, on behalf of the delegates and visitors to the Fifteenth International Convention of the Young Men's Christian Associations, with the most sincere gratitude and profoundest affection of our hearts to say that we are very glad that we have come, and thank you for this most magnificent welcome. God bless you.

Mr. Miller resumed his seat amid applause, and, although loudly called, declined to make a speech.

Mr. Geo. H. Stuart, of Philadelphia, after an interesting introductory reference to the zeal of Schuyler Colfax, in recently leaving the Senate Chamber at Washington and traveling to Philadelphia to speak for Christ, thus referred to the Convention:

We receive this welcome from you to-night, because we can say what manner of love God hath bestowed upon us—because we are, as we trust, his son's humble servants of our Lord and Master—it is as such we receive your words of welcome to-night.

In the year 1866, late in the autumn, the magnificent steamer, "Evening Star," on the way from New-York to New Orleans, foundered, and of two hundred and seventy immortal souls on board, only twenty-four remained of the wreck to tell of over two hundred and fifty who found a watery grave. The Captain, a noble seaman, struggling in the waves, the last man to leave the sinking ship, said to two of his officers, who were with him, struggling in the water, "Men, if either of you live to get home, tell my friends I died doing my duty."

Young men of the brotherhood of the Associations, can it be said of us when we come to die, that we died doing our duty? Old Latimer used to say, "Win the Crown and wear it for King Jesus!" Young men of the Christian Associations of America, "Win the Crown and wear it for King Jesus."

The choir then sang the following Welcome Hymn:

Strike every lofty chord!
 Give praises to the Lord.
 To God our king!
 Let every heart reply.
 Swell—swell the anthem high.
 Till far in yonder sky,
 The echoes ring!

Greet every brother here!
 Greet every sister dear!
 Let "WELCOME" shine
 On every banner's fold,
 In lines of brightest gold!
 And thus our love be told—
 For all are thine.

Thine own dear children, Lord.
The bearers of thy Word!

For thee they come—
To plan great things for Thee,
To spread from sea to sea,
The song of "Mercy's free"
In every home!

In pleasant song and speech,
Thrice welcome then to each!

And may the Love
Of God the Father, Son,
And Spirit—three in one,
Come like a benison
From heaven above.

And touch each heart with fire!
Each word and plan inspire
With wisdom high!
Till great Result shall stand,—
A beacon to the land,—
A monument all grand
In God's fair sky!

Business Committee submitted the following Report for

of the Convention to be from 9 A. M. to 12 M., from 2½ P. M.
and the Evening Session to begin at 8 o'clock. Speakers during
limited as follows: Opening address on any question, fifteen min-
utes five minutes.

morning, the Convention to meet in the Academy of Music. First
—Discussion of the Question,

*Each of Association Work has Afforded most Encouragement During
the Past Year?"*

to be opened by Geo. A. Hall, of Washington, D. C., and to close
by Geo. H. Stuart, Philadelphia, Pa.; Wm. Reynolds, Peoria, Ill.;

*the Best Impress upon Our Members and upon the Community a
Conviction of the Permanency of these Societies?"*

opened by T. K. Croe, of Pittsburg, Pa.

afternoon, Report of the Executive Committee, to be followed by
questions found in the question drawer.

evening, Discussion of the Question,

*How to Reach and Influence the Young Men Coming into Our Large
Towns and Cities?"*

answered in fifteen minute addresses by Hon. S. S. Fisher, of Wash-
ington, D. C.; Geo. H. Stuart, Philadelphia, Pa.; Wm. Reynolds, Peoria, Ill.;

Geo. H. Stuart, Chicago, Ill.

The President announced that K. A. Burnell would lead prayer meeting in the First Baptist Church, at six o'clock, Thursday morning, and that D. L. Moody, of Chicago, would conduct one in the Third Presbyterian Church at the same time.

By request, H. Thane Miller sang the response to "The Old Story," and then followed a social meeting, to give the delegates an opportunity to become acquainted with each other and with the citizens of Indianapolis.

MORNING SESSION.

June 23.

The Convention was called to order at 9:30 o'clock by President Maclean. After the hymn, commencing

"Soldiers of Christ, Arise,"

had been sung, the Rev. R. D. Harper, D.D., of Indianapolis read a portion of Scripture and led in prayer.

The minutes of the two previous sessions were read and approved.

The President announced the following communications as received, which were referred under the rules, viz.: From the Y. M. C. A. of Baltimore, Md.; W. G. Pettit, Treasurer of Association, Newark, N. J.; Rev. Wm. C. Richards, of Pittsfield, Mass. Justus Pfarrer, of New-York, N. Y.

Resolutions, etc., being in order, Thos. Marshall, of Philadelphia offered one in regard to Associations observing the week of prayer; H. J. Cowles, of Wisconsin, one in regard to organizing German Societies; and H. P. Lloyd, of Cincinnati, one in regard to Laymen's Institutes, all of which were referred under the rules.

R. R. McBurney, New-York, also submitted the following communication respecting the work of Y. M. C. Associations in Mexico, which was also referred:

NEW-YORK, 18th June, 1870.

*Annual Convention of the Young Men's Christian Associations of
the United States and British Provinces:*

—
er of the Young Men's Christian Association of the City of New-
call the attention of the Convention to some facts connected with
in the Republic of Mexico, from which land I have just returned.
nnected with the American army that in the year 1847 fought its
ital of Mexico, and an agent of the American Bible Society that
hat force, circulated many copies of the Holy Scriptures in that
ce the year 1863 an agent of the British and Foreign Bible Society
urther copies of the Holy Scriptures in Central Mexico. No
gelical Missionary, however, had ever preached the Gospel in
up to the beginning of the year 1869. Yet on my arrival in the
o, at the beginning of that year, I found that the Bibles that had
ted had been instrumental in leading many to Jesus and to the
ge of His precious Gospel. I also found three small Evangelical
in that city, where the Bible was read mutually and loved
ther congregations were soon gathered in the capital and neigh-
ere are now over thirty. Earnest prayer, hearty and beautiful
l singing, the reading of large portions of the Holy Scriptures,
y of Christ crucified, by those who truly love Him, a zeal for the
souls like that of the early Christians, and a joy over each that
s with true faith, gladdens us in those meetings and makes us feel
o has said, "I will build my church," has now many a saved soul
Ve have a good printing press in the City of Mexico, and have by
one a very effective tract work. We also publish an Evangelical
seminary to train Evangelists has also been doing good work in
Many young men of clear evangelical views, high education,
and noble courage are, from deep love to their Saviour, struggling
n hand, 'mid many persecutions, to preach the Gospel in that
ur side.
t these young men may have the sympathy and the prayers of the
ng men in the United States and the British Provinces. The field
abundantly ready for the establishment there of a Young Men's
ociation, and on my return to that republic I hope to soon organize
at that it may not be very long before we may be able to send a
our Conventions to represent Mexico.
u to consider us who are struggling for Jesus at the front of the
ico, as your friends and brethren in Christ, and that you will at
ber us in your prayers.

I remain, your brother in Christ.

H. CHAUNCEY RILEY.

Committee on Business reported that Mr. Driscoll's reso-
pecting the government of Associations, had been
the Committee on Associations.

President announced the following as the Committee on

Associations : Hon. C. C. Lathrop, Newark, N. J. ; Jno. L. Wheat, Louisville ; Alfred Sandham, Montreal ; T. C. Crocker, Westerley, R. I. ; Geo. O. Young, Hamilton, Ont. ; H. H. Judson, Memphis, Tenn. ; D. E. Small, York, Pa.

The Convention united in singing, and Rev. Joseph Malone, of Louisville, Ky., led in prayer.

Vice-President Jacobs in the Chair.

The next order was the consideration of the question

"What Branch of Association Work has afforded most Encouragement During the Year?"

Geo. A. Hall, of Washington, opened the discussion by saying,

That open air services had afforded the Washington Association most encouragement. The efforts in connection with those services had energized every part of their work. The particular element of success had been the entire personal consecration of a few of the members to the work of bringing souls to Christ. Perhaps thirty of their young men had consecrated themselves, saying, "Here I am, ready to do all I can that will not conflict with my duties to my church." We have striven to work with the churches. But during the past year they had made the Association work secondary to that of the Church. Their rule was to have an open-air meeting every evening, on the corner of Penn. Avenue and Twenty-seventh Street. At each meeting, from three to five addresses are delivered, not always by the leading members, but generally by those less known, who tell what Jesus has done for them and can do for others. They had succeeded in getting young men to speak who had supposed that they could not. These meetings were followed up by ten or fifteen minutes of prayer in the Association rooms, and every young man was expected to "button-hole" and invite some unconverted man into the rooms. On Sundays they have more of these open-air services, all of which have been followed by the blessing of God. During the past year, they had several meetings at which twenty or thirty persons asked for prayers, and fully 300 had expressed a belief in Christ. It must be impressed on our young men as an imperative duty that each one bring an unconverted youth with him, or at least one on their hearts for whom they could request prayer, and who was seeking the Saviour. Evincing an earnest desire for the salvation of souls gave them favor in the eyes of prominent and business men. At one of their meetings, held to raise money, General Sherman, who is not a professor of religion, said : "It is a burning shame to see what the Young Men's Christian Association are doing in this city, and then oblige them to beg for money ;" and the General put his name down for a handsome sum.

Rev. C. C. Kimball, of Erie, Penn., said an essential element of success is Christian union, which is promoted by the Associations and Conventions, because they do much toward sinking all that bears the name of strife and discord.

re, of Mass., said,

services had been the form of labor most blessed with them. Their birth was at Detroit, the motto of which Convention—"Christ for all and all the world for Christ,"—they had nailed to a flag-staff that stood on a hill-top near the city. Underneath it their open-air meetings were held. At first, the churches lacked sympathy. But the meetings prospered. From 500 to 800 persons attended them. Glorious results followed. Each service was similar to a prayer meeting. Hymns were sung, and when one brother finished speaking another would follow, reciting their experience. At one meeting twenty-three persons were converted.

Edwin, Newburgh, N. Y., thought all Y. M. C. Associations should carry on out-door preaching. The Pastors do not reach the sinners in church services; therefore the Y. M. C. A. should go out and preach the Gospel to them.

W. G. W. G. W., Toronto, Ont., said,

Our most successful with them was a meeting carried on in a large hall, on Monday evenings, with which they usually gathered the crowds of who usually loafed about the streets. At the close an inquiry service followed, at which direct personal conversation was had with the sinners. These meetings were continued until the summer months, when the renewed directly cold weather sets in.

W. G. W. G. W., Des Moines, Iowa,

Our cottage prayer meetings even better than the open-air meetings. The Association districted the city, and appointed certain of their members to hold the meetings. The people were always glad to receive them, being sinners destitute of church privileges. Others would come in, and when they heard of praying brothers who thus gathered were blessed themselves and gave a blessing for others.

Stuart, Philadelphia, Pa., said,

"To go out into the highway and compel them to come in" is the command of Christ; and if you were to ask me, as the president, for several years, of the Y. M. C. A. Associations, what measure has been the most successful, under God, for reaching souls, I would say it was going into the highways and by-ways of the city, the week, and preaching Jesus Christ and Him crucified, and from the president of the New-York Missions, Rev. Geo. J. Mingers, to the far off Pacific, on the coast of Oregon, we can point you to souls on their downward way to hell by the efforts of street preachers, who are preaching the unsearchable riches of Christ. Brethren, let us go out, and preach the Gospel on Mondays, on Saturdays, and on every Sabbath, that these young men who are hastening on to death may be saved by Christ. When last I returned from London, I was asked "What was the most interesting sight I saw there?" I saw the Queen, I saw Buckingham Palace, I saw the Crystal Palace, but the most interesting sight that I saw was the devil. I asked an eminent Baptist minister where I could see the devil

in all his power? "At the Seven Dials; but you dare not go there alone. You must take two policemen with you." I said, "take me there." It was near the hour of midnight. We were in the very centre of wickedness, of fallen women by the hundred, if not by the thousand—in the midst of pickpockets, and thieves, and gamblers, and drunkards, and everything that goes to make up the army of the Wicked One; but oh! how my heart burned within me when, under a lamp post, I saw two feeble Christian young men standing upon a boot-black's box, reading from God's word, and preaching Jesus Christ, with stammering tongues, but with a heart full of love, to an audience of thieves and pickpockets, and the most degraded human beings of every class. And, as I saw the tears roll down their cheeks, I thanked God for Christian young men who will stand up and preach the Gospel, even to the fallen creatures of the Seven Dials."

R. R. McBurney called for Mr. Emminger, of Mansfield, O., but the President announced that the time allotted for the discussion of this topic had expired, whereupon, on motion, the time was extended 15 minutes. After the Convention had joined in singing

"Follow the paths of Jesus,"

Lang Sheaf, of Cincinnati, spoke of the recent great revival in that city, during which over 2,000 souls were converted, more than 150 of whom were led to the Saviour by the instrumentality of the Y. M. C. Association. Open-air meetings had not been a success with them, but in the rooms, in private prayer, soul after soul had been born into the kingdom. A member of the Cincinnati Press, who went to report a sermon, was converted, and is now studying for the ministry.

In response to numerous calls, J. H. Emminger, of Mansfield O., rose and said, that

At the Detroit Convention, D. L. Moody told him to go home and work. Immediately on reaching home they organized themselves into a devotional committee, and resolved that no one who could not stand up in the city and speak for Jesus, should be allowed to go into the country to preach. After the Portland Convention, they had twenty-four out-stations to supply. The persons who were willing to go and speak, placed themselves in the hands of the Committee, who had blanks prepared, which were filled out as occasion required, authorizing such and such persons to go to specified places and hold meetings. In one place, last winter, at which they held meetings, over 100 were converted. They then determined to hold meetings in every house in Mansfield. These meetings were conducted by laymen, and were attended with great results. Their plan of visiting was, to give blanks to the visitors for the purpose of collecting statistics, showing the number of children within a given district, the number of persons in each and their ages, their temporal and spiritual condition.

ed that that plan had been found of singular use as a basis for rt. He gave the following as the Statistics of the Fourth Ward :
 tion in ward, 1,891 ; number of church members, 604 ; number at-
 lar, 474 ; number attending, occasional, 209 ; number of children
 284 ; number of children between 5 and 21 years, 690 ; number
 School scholars, Evangelical, 408 ; number of Sabbath School
 ics, 37 ; number of children not enrolled, 252 ; number of adults
 church, 260.

class, of Baltimore, stated that they had found the Em-
 and Boarding House Committee a great help.

Robert McMillan, of Newcastle, Pa.,

the holding of cottage meetings. Some men will not attend the
 before, we must go to them. Their Association had a Committee
 Prayer Meetings ; they divided the city into five districts—each
 d a separate chairman, who went to the head of every household,
 air permission to hold meetings at their houses, and never were
 They would commence the meeting by a moment of silent prayer,
 heart of every Christian present ascended to God for a blessing on

leaver, New London, Conn., said they had succeeded
 ors and others who congregated on the docks by
 here.

ended time for this discussion having expired, the

“ Rescue the Perishing,”

as a quartette by Mr. W. H. Doane, and Miss Julia
 Miss Jennie Barker, of Cincinnati, and Hon. S. S.
 Washington.

ident Cowles in the Chair.

vention then proceeded to the discussion of the third

*we best Impress upon our Members and the Community
 iction of the Permanency of these Societies ?”*

F. Cree, of Pittsburg, remarked, that

o one in the Convention realized the importance of this question
 did. Into nearly every town in which he had gone, he had found
 wreck of an Association that had passed away. The difficulty
 who have been interested to believe that the new organization
 in the wake of the old one. It is difficult to persuade them that
 iation will last more than six months. They would not risk their

reputation by coming into an Association that had been so short lived. There was a question at one time asked as to whether the Church of Christ would be permanent, and the answer then was, that the Church of Christ would never die, though it might rest in obscurity for ages, because it was founded and established by Christ himself. But we cannot say this of the Associations unless we say what we have done, as Christ did when he took the seventy and sent them out to preach the Gospel.

The first question that we meet is, "How are we to prove the need of such an organization, and that the need will always exist?" There are, in all branches of science, specialties. So, in the Church of Christ, we have the Sunday School and its specialties, and the Association is another one of the specialties of the Church of Christ. Those in the work understand this, those who are not do not. The work is largely among young men, and is performed by young men. Between them there exists a bond of Union. So soon as all feel this, there is a bond of sympathy running between all parties. This common interest also creates a sympathy with the several Churches. I recollect a young man who lost a splendid situation that yielded him \$5,000 a year, by giving way to temptation. He was out of employment and in distress. He could not go to Church, but he came to the Association Rooms from day to day, and we talked with him and prayed with him, and he was, as we believed and hoped, fully converted. He fell, but after a week came back to our rooms like a repenting prodigal. I talked with him and prayed with him. He came to the prayer meeting that night perfectly sober. We gave him the right hand of fellowship, and hope he has been finally restored. That is the work we have to do among young men, and, if we can get our members to realize that there is a work for each member to do, then we will find that the Associations cannot fail.

The young men coming from other parts find specialties that are adapted for them in the Association, and whatever is most fitting for young men to do is the work adapted for the Association. What we ought to do is to get them into the particular work for which they are adapted.

We also want to convince our members that we are a permanency, and that we are bound so to be, if we can get the brethren to do their individual work. We must have this thorough consecration to our work. A gentleman said yesterday he feared for the permanency of his Association. I was in his town not long ago, when there was a meeting appointed by the Association, and thirteen strangers were there, but no member to take charge of the meeting.

Brethren, I want to put our standard high, and have as active members only those who are personal Christians, who love the Lord Jesus and will work for Him; then there will not be any danger of our Associations dying out.

But it is important to have a permanent building. Would any one question the permanency of the New-York Association, with its building erected at a cost of \$500,000, or that of the Washington Association, with its building erected at a cost of \$200,000, or that of Chicago or San Francisco, or our little town of Bethlehem, Pa., where a building was completed some three years ago? In every town we ought to have buildings for our use. In smaller Associations this cannot always be done, neither are they always required. They can prosecute the work successfully without them.

Then, again, how are we to convince the public and our members of the permanency of the Associations? By our International and State Conventions

are to support the weaker, by giving them opportunity to listen to have fire, and the weak and cold are to get the fire from those who believe that the State Conventions do even more good than the local gatherings, although we hear at the latter all that God has done and go back and tell the story.

M. C. Wilkins, Washington, D. C., knew of dead men, and this fact we must not cover in our desire to set the shining lights before us. They were dead because they failed to perform their legitimate work.

D. W. Whittle, Chicago, told of a church in Chicago which had established a library and reading-room, that was even more effective than that of the Young Men's Christian Association. Every church ought to be furnished; and when that is done, he did not know but what he could work for Christ in the church; but until that consummation, although they have done a great deal and are becoming nearer, there is still work for the Association.

Harvey, Erie, said if he understood the object of the Young Men's Christian Association, it was to organize the Christian life and power of the young men of the nation, to bring the young men of the nation to Christ. If all were devoted to Christ, and the object were attained, then the question might be asked, "shall the Association be permanent?"

Burnell, Ill., mentioned several cases where, when it had been decided to erect a permanent building, they were astonished at the benevolence of men who were not Christians. Such unselfishness strengthened public faith in the permanency of the Associations.

E. Davis, Burlington, Vermont, said, to convince others of the permanency of the Associations, we must first be thorough in our belief of it. If we believe it ourselves, we shall be able to work for it.

Orne, Cincinnati, O., said, in order to impress the world with our belief that the Associations would be permanent, it is necessary to have workers. And of our works it will be said as of the works of the Apostles, "If the work be of man it will fail, but if it be of God it will prevail."

Rev. G. E. Tomlinson, of Westerly, R. I., said the Associations must do something if they wished to convince the world of their permanency. As a clergyman, he would say that he would neglect some of his regular work rather than fail to work with the Young Men's Christian Association. He hoped the time would come when every young man would regard himself as a preacher of the Gospel.

A message received from Governor Baker stated : " The latch-string is out at the State House, and I shall be most happy to receive any of the Delegates who will call on me."

On motion of R. R. McBurney, it was resolved that the Convention adjourn at five o'clock in the afternoon, to allow Corresponding Members to meet and determine when the State Conventions shall be held.

After singing, the Rev. Dr. Day, of Indianapolis, led in prayer and pronounced the Benediction.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At 2:30 o'clock the Convention came to order at the call of the President.

The hymn was sung, commencing

"Fountain of Life Divine."

The Rev. J. F. Campbell, of Halifax, N. S., read from I. Thess., 5th chapter, and the Rev. T. N. Haskell, of Aurora, Ill., led in prayer, after which the hymn commencing

"Arise and bless the Lord,"

was sung. The minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

On motion of Chas. C. Shirk, of Erie, Pa., Rev. Felix R. Brunot, Chairman of the Indian Peace Commission, was invited to take a seat on the platform.

Resolutions being in order, the following were offered :

Harr, Bridgeport, Conn., in reference to total abstinence.
 istle, Philadelphia, respecting representation of Young
 tian Associations at the Evangelical Alliance in New-

osby, Grand Rapids, Mich., on Associations in Colleges
 sities.

all, York, Pa., regarding praise-meetings.

sall, Brooklyn, respecting government of this Conven-

land, W. Va., respecting recognition of members.

rk, Erie, in reference to distribution of religious read-

Havemeyer, New-York City, respecting the object and
 Evangelical Alliance; also, one respecting observance
 ath.

eleh, York, Pa., on more efficient union of Young
 tian Associations.

inkley, Richmond, Ind., respecting Traveling Evan-

ew, Pittsburg, resolution to prohibit demonstrations
 during the Convention

achelor, Scranton, Pa., on the questions of the Execu-
 ttee.

sy, Des Moines, Iowa, asked leave to read a condensed
 e work in Iowa.

n of Wm. Edsall, Brooklyn, the motion to read the
 abled.

lefield, from the Devotional Committee, reported the
 votional Exercises for the day.

cations were announced from Wm. S. Miles, of
 S. C., and one from S. W. Thompson, of Charleston,
 rred to the Business Committee.

ident Ray in the Chair.

he Seaman's Prayer" had been sung by W. H. Doane,
 ld and Barker and Hon. S. S. Fisher, Mr. Cephas
 New-York, Chairman of the Executive Committee,

read the report of the Executive Committee. (This report will be found in the Appendix.)

During a pause in the reading of the report, Geo. H. Stuart, of Philadelphia, said he noticed Governor Baker among the audience, and therefore moved that he be invited to a seat on the platform. and, as the Governor had welcomed the Convention the previous evening, that the Convention express the vote by rising to their feet, and, while thus standing, join in singing "All Hail the Power of Jesus' name."

The motion was unanimously adopted.

At the conclusion of the reading of the Executive Committee's Report, it was accepted and referred to the Committee on the Executive Committee's Report.

After the Convention had united in singing,

"Christ for all the world we sing,"

And the Rev. W. B. Chidlaw, of Cincinnati, had led in prayer,

THE QUESTION DRAWER

was opened. The first seven questions were addressed to D. L. Moody, of Chicago. The questions and replies given were as follows :

1. Would you allow at our Y. M. C. Association meetings, members to speak or read essays against the Roman Catholic religion ? *Ans.*—Cannot answer for the Associations, but will for myself. My plan has been, for many years past, not to allow any one in public meetings of which I had charge to abuse the Catholics or say anything against them. We often have two or three hundred in Farwell Hall, and to abuse them would only drive them off.

2. How would you act when questioned by sceptics or non-believers at our open-air meetings ? *Ans.*—Couldn't tell until the time came.

3. Is it advisable to send those wanting Railroad Passes from one Association to another ? *Ans.* Can speak from experience on that point. We have men come from different Associations. Recently a man came asking a pass to New York for himself and family, saying that if they got there the New-York Association might pass them to Ireland. Five or six daily come into the office, and think the Association ought to furnish them with passes. We are sometimes mented by the members of other Associations giving these men to understand that we can procure passes for them. A good many of them live on the Associations all the time. A man came recently into the Chicago office, as though he were my most intimate friend. He was determined to know me. Could not prove the acquaintance, so he went to the Secretary ; said he was glad to see him, and asked to borrow \$10. Cases of this kind are coming continually.

What am I to do?" I answer, "Work; I have to earn my bread of my brow."

ladies to be admitted to or even allowed at our Association
Ans.—They are pretty dry prayer meetings if they do not

lies admitted to membership in the Chicago Associations? Are
 large Associations throughout the United States, and, if so, with

.....Ans.—Can speak for our own Association. Ladies are ad-
 not as active members. They have all the privileges of the Asso-
 to not vote. We do not want them elected to office. Do not think
 exactly the thing to have a lady elected President of the Association.
 r. Moody tell us if it is not better (in his opinion) to follow up one
 person, instead of speaking with half a dozen, and then leave them;
 did you follow them up?.....Ans.—If I had half a dozen anxious,
 w them all up, sure. If I had but one anxious, I would follow
 sure. You cannot tell beforehand. You have to use your judg-
 times you can do more good by talking to half a dozen, and some-
 thing to only one.

re request the American Tract Society to furnish all Associations on
 us that Mr. Buley, of Dublin, does at the present time.....Ans.—
 tion must use their own judgment about that. Get the best tracts
 n circulating.

favor admitting ladies and games into the Societies?Ans.—
 e necessary connection between games and ladies. All I can say
 a long time past we have admitted ladies as associate members.
 o classes of members. Our active members, who are members
 al Churches, are alone eligible to office and to vote. The others
 n of good, moral standing, and ladies who are admitted as associate
 These are admitted to all the privileges of the reading-room.
 Generally, the young men are better behaved in the presence of
 n our experience, there has been nothing improper in the conduct
 s at all times, and naught but what is worthy of imitation by
 es. We do not have any games.

r. McBurney tell us what amusements the N. Y. Association has
 ers?.....Ans.—We have a gymnasium, bowling alley and chess

can we secure for universal use little books for free circulation?.....

P. Rowland, Boston.—Let every Association get the books free if
 wrote Henry Buley, asking at what they could be obtained. He
 e would furnish them at one-fourth price. They thus come at
 b.; 600 tracts, or 4,800 pages, for \$1. What we want is to request
 Tract Society to call upon the Churches to furnish us funds for
 d enable the Y. M. C. Association to place this material in the
 ry young man.

advisable, as a rule, to employ a missionary in connection with the
 Association?.....Answer by K. A. Burnell, Aurora, Ill.—My
 at missionaries, as a rule, are a detriment. I know of three
 formerly prominent, who employed missionaries, and have failed.
 ned the question, and know that in two of the three cases, mission-

aries were the cause of failure. The employment of missionaries robs the Association of vitality.

12. Would it be advisable for the Associations to employ traveling Evangelists to awaken Associations and assist in revivals?... *Answer* by D. L. Moody.—I like them very much. We have had two or three in Chicago and they have done us very much good.

13. Is it competent for any Association to admit ladies to active membership? Would such action prevent affiliation and representation in this body? *Answer* by Mr. Brainerd of New York.—As a rule, I think it is best not to admit ladies to active membership. I presume, however, that doing so would not preclude the Associations from representation in the Convention, upon male membership only.

Second Answer by Hon. S. S. Fisher, of Washington.—I think it demonstrable that ladies should not become members of our Association; first, because they are not young men, and next, because they ought, as soon as possible, in every place where there are young men, to form Young Women's Christian Associations. These societies have been formed in some places, and in every case they have been blessed. They have displayed talents for organization that have not been surpassed. *Third Answer*, by Thos. K. Cree, Pittsburg.—I do not think it a matter of very much importance. I think that, in some towns where there are not any Women's Associations, and the women are desirous to become members, they might be allowed. In many cases they would make the best members. I do not think there would be any question about such societies being admitted to membership in the Convention.

14. How are the Associations of the South progressing?..... *Answer*, by C. E. Chichester, of South Carolina.—Thought the very able report of the Executive Committee gave more information than he could give. The Associations throughout the South are not progressing with that energy we would love to see. But we think that renewed effort on the part of the Executive Committee during the winter, would result in the establishment of not less than fifty live Associations. The field is already white to the harvest. As a rule, in the South, they do not know how to work and manage Associations. When such a brother as Geo. Hall, of Washington, visits them, and shows them that he loves them, it has a great effect. Then they would organize Associations everywhere. And I feel assured that if brothers Lee and Hall, or some other good brother, could continue the effort next year, there would be fifty Associations from the South represented at the next Convention. The brethren are looking for this. They want sympathy. They want your countenances there. They want to be assured you do not have any very bad opinion of the Southern people. The Association that I represent (Charleston, S. C.) was formerly the model Association in the United States. The International Convention held there, was one of the most glorious Conventions ever held. Give us your sympathies and your prayers, and by this fellowship you will do more to reconstruct the South than by any other means.

The Report of the Committee on Resolutions was presented by Mr. Wicks, Chairman. It appears in detail in the minutes of Friday morning.

Robbs, Chicago, moved that the report be left over until the next session.

The President decided that the whole report must go on file, and that there was unfinished business.

The Rotational Committee reported the several prayer meetings of the evening.

The Business Committee reported as follows :

Session, in the Academy of Music: 1st Order—One hour discussion of the following question : " What is the secret of the inefficiency of Committees ? " To be opened by Robert C. Hey, of New-York. 2d Order—Discussion of the question : " What is the best means of securing Association building ? " To be opened by Geo. E. Davis, of Vt.

Evening Session, Academy of Music, from 2:30 to 5:30 : 1st Order—Discussion of topic No. 7 of the Executive Committee, " Associations of America, not simply isolated organizations but charged with the duty of a local work, but charged also with the duty of a general service in the Saviour's name, for each other and for the young men of the whole continent." To be opened by J. Brainerd, of New-York. 2d Order—Discussion of topic No. 2 of the Executive Committee, " The importance of securing German young men in our efforts for the increase of the Kingdom of God on earth, the character and success of such as have been secured, and the best plans for the further prosecution of the same." To be opened by Rev. J. H. W. Stuckenburg, of Philadelphia, Pa.

Evening's Session : Discussion of the question, " How can we reach young men coming into our large cities ? " Speakers : J. C. Chidlaw, Cincinnati ; Hon. S. S. Fisher, Washington ; J. Reynolds, Peoria, Ill. ; Geo. H. Stuart, Philadelphia ; and J. C. Dy, Chicago.

The report was accepted and adopted.

The Committee on Credentials announced a partial report of the members present at the Convention.

The hymnology was sung, and the Convention adjourned, the prayer of J. Byars having pronounced the Benediction.

EVENING SESSION.

Before the hour of commencement, despite the extreme heat, the Academy of Music was densely crowded in every part by delegates, their friends and citizens of Indianapolis. President Maclean presided, and the Rev. D. H. Moore, of Cincinnati, conducted the opening devotional exercises.

On motion of M. W. Pond, of Boston, Mass., the reading of the minutes was postponed to the morning session, and the Convention proceeded to the discussion of the Fourth Topic,

"How are we to reach and influence the young men coming in our large towns?"

The Rev. B. W. Chidlaw, of Cincinnati, the first speaker, said,

The subject is one of practical importance. If we could enable the present generation to save the generation following, the country will be saved, and will prosper in all its material interests. But if we fail to bring them under the influence of the Gospel, we may look at the future with sad foreboding. It is evident to every observer that there is a constant flow of young men in our large towns. These young men are to be preserved from sin, and their feet planted on the Rock of Ages. Very many of them are the sons of men of affluence, whose parents have spent much upon their education. But there is a class not thus blessed with the goodly influences of home—a class who do not represent the graduates of our Sunday-Schools and Colleges. To reach these young men, you must go to their places of business and invite them to your rooms. Meet them with sympathy, and they will easily be reached.

Another class the Association is destined to bless—not merely young men of affluence, who have homes to cheer them; but thousands of young men of muscle and brain—adventurers: such men are found in great numbers in our streets. They constitute a great class of our common brotherhood. They fall into the ways of sin; and the Young Men's Christian Associations ought to be out and stop them from running into the highways of sin, and take them by the hand with all that is Christ-like in our hearts, and win them to God. We must go to the man in home-spun as well as to the son of affluence. Our work as Christian Associations is to take hold of the poorest and most helpless: this is our Gospel, and, if it is, let us throw around the poor outcast and the degraded the mantle of Charity and the Christian sympathy of Jesus Christ.

By request, H. Thane Miller sang the hymn commencing
"Weary of wandering long."

The Hon. S. S. Fisher, of Washington, D. C., said,

As I can neither sing nor talk as well as Bro. Miller, I will speak his words. Some time ago we had a meeting in Cincinnati of our Presbyterian Churches, not then united as now, and the question under discussion there was pretty much the same as that here to-night—How shall we gain the masses? During

Brother Miller came into the room, and, notwithstanding the fact that he is a Baptist, we put him on the stand as Bishop Miller, to speak. This is his speech: "Brethren, if you ask me how to reach the world, this is my answer to make: 'Go for them!'" and he sat down. If you are to reach the young men, I have this answer to make: "Go for them." If any brother knows of any young man not yet converted, who is in the tide of sin, go for him, and take to him the message of the Gospel. Pastors and Churches have not yet reached the young strangers: Is it possible that this great Young Men's Christian Association—the largest body of the Christian young men of more than one nation—may have failed to perform? If you find, in one place, that the work cannot be sustained, why, in God's name, establish one! But if you find in another place, that there is a large foreign population who will not hear the Gospel, why, hold prayer meetings. Use every appliance. It is a person so fortunate as to stand upon the very apex of the North Atlantic that would blow upon him would be a southerly gale, and in that case he would look toward the South. Brethren, if we attain the very gale that blows will be a southerly gale of prosperity. It is our duty to point the way out of the storm, and call to each struggling man "Come and plant your feet upon the Rock!"

Brother Stuart, of Philadelphia, remarked, "How can we reach these millions, the united Christian young men of these United States and all the world, meet these teeming multitudes? Not merely those who are in our quiet country homes, but that vast, ever-increasing population that comes to us from the Old World. I wish that I could get every man to pause for a moment, and look at the magnitude of this problem. Into the port of New-York, there sail, weekly, at least a dozen steamers, to say nothing of packet ships, entering there laden with thousands of immortal souls. I wish I could take any man who has never been to the seaport towns of Western Europe, and show you the trains as they come to the depots, crowded with young men who are leaving the homes of their fathers and the influences of their mothers, to find a home on the American continent. Think of the influence these young men are to exert on this continent, for good or for woe. Think of the fact that these young men are far from the influences that were around them for good in the homes of their fathers, and remember that the number of those who come thus to our continent is increasing year after year. I believe that the Y. M. C. A. of America, organized as they are to-day, possess peculiar facilities for reaching this great tide of young men. I believe that we have the facilities that no other Society possesses. I always place this Institution subordinate to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. But in this combination we have what no one Church possesses. We meet them not with sectarian views, but to benefit their never-dying souls. Then, how can we do it? We must reach the young man to Church. Next morning he comes to you, and says, 'I have no money.' The last dollar is gone. He wants employment. You do with him? Pray with him. That is all well enough, but if a man has no money, can get nothing to do, and is homeless. Will you give him of Jesus on an empty stomach? The first thing is to get him food. My friends there is a great deal of gospel in a warm cup of

coffee or tea, and a piece of beef-steak, especially if it is tender. If we had not recognized this principle years ago, the history of the United States Christian Commission never would have been written. So long as I live I shall never forget the countenance of a noble, but rough-looking Indiana soldier, whom I met coming from Gettysburg, as I was going to that field of battle. He wore the badge of the Christian Commission on my coat—as I learned afterwards, he owed his life to the efforts of the delegates of the Christian Commission. He folded his arms, and, said he, “I am not a member of any Church, but if I live to get home, I am going to join the Church, and I want to join the Church that belongs to the Christian Commission.”

After relating one or two stirring incidents, Mr. Stuart said, in conclusion,

Young men of these Christian Associations, arise in your might and put your armor on? Christians, if you would enjoy peace with God, taste the sweets of doing good, and God will bless you.

The hymn commencing,

“Soldiers of Christ Arise!”

was then sung, after which William Reynolds, of Peoria, Ill., remarked,

That the question under consideration was the most important that had ever come before the Convention. By libraries and other means we interest many young men, but fail to reach the greater portion. Man is a social being, and will find society of some kind. They need society and home influence. They need the society of the fair sex. He (the speaker,) would not be standing before this audience, had it not been for a family in Philadelphia who threw open to him their home, and invited him to enter. But for that influence he would probably be now filling a drunkard's grave. Employers also have a duty to perform towards the young men beyond that of dollars and cents. It is the employers' business to know where their young men go after business hours. Showing them we have an interest in them is a stimulus to prompt them to good and noble endeavors. I wish you to throw open your doors. Give to these young men who have to spend long and lonely evenings a diversion, and invite them to your homes. The speaker then plead earnestly for the reform of prisoners, large numbers of whom are continually being released. They want to be saved, and it is our duty to take them by the hand and lift them up, and give them to feel that there is yet a bright future for them. The latest Y. M. C. Association in Illinois, to-day, is in the State Prison at Joliet, numbering over 400. There are noble young men in these prisons who were subjected to great temptations, under which we would have fallen had not the grace of God saved us.

Mrs. Halford, of Indianapolis, sang,

“Nearer my God to Thee,”

After which D. L. Moody, of Chicago, delivered the closing address. Said he,

That is what we have been trying to get at. We have been fifteen years trying to get at it, and have not fully succeeded. How to reach young men is a small word; it comes right across our path, and we cannot get around it. We cannot pretend to be wiser than all those who have gone before me, but the best way is to tear out a leaf from the books of our own experience and show each one must do something. There may be some persons who will not write. Well, write to them; keep on writing to them. Also write to the friends of the city where they are, and say, "John Jones has been in the city, and can be found in such a street. Will you not go and hunt for him at once, so that the Association can be the first to reach him, and they will have most influence over him. If you do not get hold of him, he has been in the city three months, it will be very hard to get hold of him."

The devil sets a snare upon every young man. Mr. Moody then gave details of the mode in which the Chicago Association sought to reach young men. On Sunday evenings the members of the Association were on every bridge crossing the river, leading to the central city, and invite every young man to the Farwell Hall meeting. Strangers are called "yoke fellows." Near the Hall door the best looking young men are placed, and these press the strangers into the arms of the Churches have now organized these "yoke fellows," so that those which were formerly almost empty are now filled. On Sunday evening we have a gathering called the Strangers' Social. Every young man is invited to be there, and become acquainted with the members of the Association. None of the members are allowed to speak longer than five minutes, and if one gets "prosy," I tell him that we will hear from some other man. He must speak out plainly—no mistake. Then, when all is at white heat, the first stranger, and ask him, "You are a stranger, are you? Tell me your name. Are you a Christian?" "No, sir!" "Well, don't you let me hear from you again?" "Yes, sir!" Then our young Christians "spot him!" They follow up the capture.

The Employment Bureau has done a great work. Last year we processed 5,000 young men. Thus the Association has a claim upon every young man. We cannot help but love it. If it cost the Christian young men everything, the young men must be saved. They want to see men who are earnest in earnest. If we are in earnest, then we shall reach them. What are you doing when you bring these young men into the city? One may become a Whitefield, another a Wesley, and another a Morton. A kind word rescued Charles Morton when a drunkard, and the present powerful Superintendent of Mr. Beecher's Bethel Mission. The speaker concluded with a passionately earnest appeal to the young men to be reconciled to God "just now."

Miller led in a prayer, after which the "Invitation to Prayer" was sung. Subsequently four stanzas of "Come and Praise the Lord" were sung, with deep feeling. The Rev. Mr. Morehaus, of Michigan, pronounced the Benediction, and the Convention closed.

THIRD DAY.—MORNING SESSION.

INDIANAPOLIS, *June 24.*

The Convention met in the Academy of Music at nine o'clock. President Maclean in the chair.

The Rev. Wm. M. Martin, of Brooklyn, read a portion of Scriptures, and the Rev. Mason Gallagher, of Duleith, Minn., led in prayer.

The minutes of the two previous sessions were read and approved.

Communications were announced from Samuel Nash, of Liverpool, England, and from J. T. Johnston, of Lexington, Ky.

Resolutions on the following subjects were presented :

1. On the Sabbath, by J. C. Havemeyer, New-York.
2. On the International Lecture Bureau of the Y. M. C. Association, E. M. Boynton, Brooklyn.
3. On the formation of Women's Christian Associations in various parts of the country, by Wm. Stickney, Washington, D. C.
4. Regarding Associations aiding young men to the Ministry, by E. C. Chester, South Carolina.
5. A manual for the Associations, by T. H. Smith, Washington, D. C.
6. Representation to Convention, by T. H. Smith, Washington, D. C.

On motion of Geo. H. Stuart, Philadelphia, the Report of the Committee on Resolutions was taken up, item by item, as follows :

1. The resolution referring to Associations in Colleges.—Referred to the Committee on Associations. Report adopted.
2. The resolution respecting Praise Meetings.—Referred to the Business Committee. Report adopted.
3. Selection of Delegates.—The Committee reported that action on this resolution was unnecessary, it being covered by a resolution of the Montreal Convention. The report was accepted and adopted.
4. As to Relation of the Young Men's Christian Associations to the Churches.—This was covered by a resolution of Portland Convention. Report approved.
5. Respecting Temperance.—Action precisely same as on the 4th resolution.
6. In regard to the resolution on Applause, the Committee reported the following substitute :

Resolved, That, during the business meetings of the Convention, the members desist from all noisy demonstrations of approbation or disapprobation, as inconsistent with the religious character of the Convention.—Laid on the table.

7. German Associations.—The Committee reported as follows :

Resolved, That our Christian Associations should extend to our German fellow-citizens their earnest sympathy, and endeavor to gather their young men with

and, where the necessity may exist, should encourage the German Associations.—Laid over until after the discussion on the German Associations.

Prayer.—The reading of the original resolution was called for.

As great blessings have followed the observance of the week of prayer, is necessarily a union service,

that it be the duty of Associations, wherever located, in city, town or country, to make the most complete arrangements to secure its general observance.

The Committee reported against the resolution, considering it the duty and privilege of the Churches alone.

Mr. Stuart, of Philadelphia, opposed the adoption of the resolution, and made the following report:

Five years ago different periods had been observed by the several Associations in Philadelphia. Then the Association invited the pastors to select a time for all. This order had ever since been successfully observed, the consequence was a unanimous observance. But if the pastors were to observe it at another day, he hoped the Associations would have the wisdom to follow the others.

Mr. J. H. Murray said,

He most decidedly opposed to the adoption of the resolution in its present form. He thought the report of the Committee would be sustained. He thought it was a most unwarranted assumption, on the part of the Associations, to require the pastors to meet them for the purpose of making arrangements for the observance of the week of prayer. In cities in which branches of the Evangelical Association exist, the adoption of the course proposed by Mr. Stuart would place the Associations in a position which would be supremely ridiculous. As young men are to be modest, and not seek to interfere with matters which do not concern them.

Mr. J. H. Murray, Chairman of the Committee, amended the resolution by adding the words, "Wherever the churches of the Association have not made any such arrangements."

Mr. Stuart accepted the amendment, and the resolution, as amended, was adopted.

On the recognition of members, the original resolution read: That a Committee of three be appointed by the President to report a plan by which the members of the Young Men's Christian Association may be able to recognize each other. Tabled on the recommendation of the Committee.

On the distribution of reading matter: *Resolved*, That measures be taken by this Convention to secure permission from the various railroad companies to attach to each passenger coach appropriate boxes in which to place religious reading matter, and that the different Young Men's Associations be requested to contribute to the same.

Christian Associations along the lines of railroads be requested to keep suit-
boxes supplied with such reading matter.

On motion of D. L. Moody the resolution was placed in the
question drawer, to be answered by L. P. Rowland, Jr., of Boston.

Vice-President Fisher, in the chair.

11. As to laymen or institutes, the resolution read:

WHEREAS, Many of the lay members of our Associations are actively engaged
in teaching and preaching the Gospel; and,

WHEREAS, It is desirable that this work should be done in the most efficient
manner; therefore,

Resolved, That we recommend to the Associations the organization of Lay
men's Institutes, in which the young men may receive practical instruction in
regard to the best manner of conducting religious meetings, and of presenting
religious truth. Referred to the Committee on Business.

All that portion of the Report of the Committee on Resolutions
not referred to other Committees, was then adopted.

The Convention then proceeded to the next regular order—dis-
cussion of the Fourth Topic,

"What is the Secret of Securing the efficiency of Committees?"

R. R. McBurney, of New-York, opened the discussion, and
follows:

If there is a secret about this subject I have not discovered it. But of one
thing I am sure, that in order to secure a thing you must persistently labor for
its accomplishment.

1. To secure efficient Committees you must have an efficient President, who
shall make the work of each Committee an object of special prayer and study,
and be so familiar with the needs of the locality as to appoint no Committee
except such as are needed.

2. He should not appoint Committees, and especially Chairmen, at haphazard.
He should carefully instruct any person whom he may appoint as Chairman,
man, privately, as to his duties and the work of his Committee, if he should be
ignorant of them, that he may not find out, when he meets his Committee,
that the least influential members of it know more than he of its work, and
thus become discouraged. Occasional meetings of the Chairmen of the Com-
mittees should be called by the President, at his house, for general discussion
of the work. General meetings of all the Committees of an Association
have been found beneficial. On such occasions some simple refreshment should
be provided.

3. The President should attend, with frequency, the meetings of each Com-
mittee, but should not actually, or in appearance, assume the place of the
Chairman.

4. If, notwithstanding his care and study in the appointment of Committees,
the President should find some man not qualified for the work for which he was

should remove him immediately, or transfer him to some Committee which he may be better qualified. The Committee should meet regularly, at least once a month, of which notice should be given to each member.

The Chairman should open the meetings promptly at the time appointed, and a quarter of the Committee be present. There should be no business on account of the absence of a quorum.

The meeting should be conducted with seriousness, and be opened with business, which should have a direct bearing on the work of the Committee. Socializing talk should not be allowed; the work of the Committee should be fully, seriously and promptly discussed.

The meeting should close as soon as the business which has called it together shall have been finished.

The Chairman should study each member of his Committee. If a member is absent from the meeting he should be visited immediately to ascertain the reason for his absence. Should the member continue to neglect his work, he should be immediately dropped from the Committee.

The Chairman should occasionally invite the members of his Committee to tea, if he has one; if not, some member of the Committee ought to give an invitation.

At successive monthly meetings of the Association, the work of each Committee should be discussed, the discussion to be preceded by an essay, which should contain all the information possible as to the manner in which the work of the Committee under consideration is prosecuted in other places.

Reports should be required at each meeting of the Association from the members of each Committee. Matters of a discouraging character should not be brought before the Association.

Mr. Burney asked:

How can your Committees run the Association into debt, or contract with the Board of Managers to pay?

Mr. Burney replied:

A Committee can expend any money not previously appropriated to it by the Directors.

Mr. Burney, of Newark, asked Mr. McBurney how he would interpret the principle laid down in his remarks, that no meeting should be postponed for the want of a quorum, in cases where a quorum has been established making a certain number of members a quorum.

The working Committees of an Association should have no such power.

Mr. Thomas, Hamilton, Ont., thought he had discovered the inefficiency of Committees. No person ought to accept a position on the Committees unless he had the ability to perform the duties of the position.

the duties ; and, if his heart was in the work, God would give him the necessary ability ; but if he fails, he ought to see it to be his duty to resign.

Ed. A. Wilson, Springfield, Ill., believed in dropping a member if he neglected his duty, and appointing another in his place.

J. H. Emminger, of Mansfield, O., asked Mr. McBurney, "Do you allow your Committees to do any work outside of the Devotional Committee without its being submitted to the Board of Managers?"

Answer—Our Committees are appointed to do a given work. If they wish to go out of that line, they consult the Executive Committee, which has many of the powers of the Board of Directors, and meets twice a week.

P. B. Simons, Philadelphia, said a great fault was, that the Secretary was left to do all the work for the Committee.

M. W. Johnson, Trenton, N. J., said the Chairman generally did the work if any is done. Would it not, therefore, be better for the Chairman to select the members of the Committee instead of being appointed by the President.

Answer by Mr. McBurney—I think the President should appoint all the Committees.

George E. Lovejoy, Lowell, Mass., said,

In our Sunday School work, if we want a good teachers' meeting, the first thing we have to do is to get the teachers there. In like manner, if you want good Committee meetings or good Committee work, you must get them there. How do you get them there?

Mr. McBurney said,

The Secretary of each Committee sends a printed notice to each member.

Moses W. Pond, Boston, said,

If the Chairman of the Committee knows exactly what his duties are, he will take pains to become personally acquainted with each member of the Committee. Then when they meet he will find them prepared to go to work. They should meet socially, talk together, and get thoroughly familiar with the business. Our great difficulty is, the members of the Committee do not know what is to be done.

H. C. Studley, Washington,

Had found from experience, that the Chairman had all to do. One way to obviate this, is to put work upon each member of the Committee. Give or

evangelical work, another of the jail work, another of the districts, and once in a week the Chairman should call them together, from each of them what they have been doing ; and in that way all these different channels fruitful of good results every month.

ew, Pittsburg, remarked, that if we could not get our to work for Christ, and they did not show fruits of , they ought all to be discharged.

vention joined in singing, and at the request of the Cephas Brainerd led in prayer.

ague, Toronto, Ont., thought

y was to put quite young men, who had life in them, upon the If you do not get the young men to work you will get into a dead e that will take all the heart out of your work. These young dding talent and budding judgment, and will become wiser every e on a Committee, thus giving you constant accessions of life and

on of Samuel Cupples, St. Louis, discussion of this as now closed.

ident Stuart in the chair.

ter, of the Business Committee, submitted a special e resolution offered by H. P. Lloyd, of Cincinnati, in aymen's Institutes.

mittee reported the original resolution, and recom- t the regular order be changed to allow the Rev. H. f Cincinnati, to address the Convention for fifteen the subject.

rt was accepted.

Brainerd moved to amend, so as to allow the Rev. Mr. minutes, and the Convention also ten minutes, in which he question.

amended so as to allow thirty minutes for the discus- nutes being allotted to Mr. Moore. The motion as aded, prevailed.

e began by rapidly tracing the history of the Asso- m their unpromising commencement to their pre- proportions. Reverting also to the condition and eation of the people, he said,

Thirty or forty years ago the men who passed through our colleges and universities were not any better prepared, and, taking all things into consideration, were not as well prepared to enter upon the business of life, or any one of the professions as are our young men and women who graduate from our High Schools to-day. They had the intelligence that comes not from the book but from society. Society is in these latter days adjusting itself, and intelligence goes in at the pores, and our young men and young women who graduate from our Grammar Schools to-day, are ready to take hold of the questions that agitate society with a muscular force. The day of dress parade, and the gathering together of Church members on the Sabbath morning and night, and in the Wednesday night prayer meeting simply, has gone past. Nor is this saying anything at all against the proper province of the ministry, or the prerogatives of Churches, but our congregations to-day are working men and women. What this institute movement means is but this—the organization of all these workers for Christ into a normal institute, in which they shall receive practical instruction from experts. They want to be taught how to work and how to do their work well. When they go into a jail not to begin to sing,

“Hark, from the *Tombs* a doleful Sound;”

but rather to sing with cheerful voice,

“Religion never was designed
To make our pleasures less.”

The Institute occupies a place between the Bible Class and the Theological Seminary. It is designed to be a place where they may be invested with spiritual force that shall enable them to go out and bear testimony effectively for God. The Churches cannot teach evangelistic laborers all these things, and a pastor who will not take hold of the Y. M. C. Association, with all its co-operative instrumentalities for pushing forward the work of the Lord Jesus Christ ought to get out of his pulpit.

Rev. C. H. Spaulding, Pawtucket, R. I., said,

He advocated lay-preaching from his pulpit, but he did not see the necessity for a Layman's Institute. He wanted no better evidence of the fitness of laymen for their work than is shown by the young men who animate our Conventions. Every means combined cannot do as much as God's spirit to fit a man for the work.

Rev. James T. Campbell, of Halifax, N. S.,

Believed God had qualified some men for the special work of the ministry and had put it into their hearts to do this work. As God had given them the Holy Spirit, so also He had given them the intellectual training. He believed it would be possible to have something of the nature of an Institute in some of the large central towns, where some of the abler lay members might receive some education in theology, and especially in evangelical labors.

Moses H. Sargent, of Boston, believed such an institution impracticable. Business men with families would not spend time to attend institutes to qualify themselves for lay preachers.

Mr. Evans, of Fort Wayne, Ind., thought a great hindrance to

of the Gospel was a want of the personal feeling in member of the Church of Christ that they are His ambassadors. We hoped that the brethren would watch out at these times and draw upon the best material for active workers

in Richmond, Ind., opposed the resolution, first, because it would have a sufficiently large educational influence in that direction in the community; and second, because it would create a new class.

Mr. Burney, of New-York, said,

I found that the reason that they had so few good lay preachers was that good men who are ready to engage in this class of service, though zealous, did not know what to preach or how to preach. The narrative of personal experience was indulged in to excess; Sabbath breaking, total abstinence, and many other merely moral questions, were given the place which should be given to the presentation of Jesus Christ as the Saviour from sin. Exhortations to repentance were so pressed that repentance and faith in the Saviour were in the foreground where they belonged. By such preaching men were driven from Christ instead of being led to Him. If he understood the resolution proposed by his Cincinnati friend, it is simply to increase the efficiency in lay teachers and preachers by the holding of Lay-Religious Institutes, once a year, and lasting one or two days, by our churches in large cities and by groups of Associations in country districts, at which addresses should be delivered by Ministers or Theological Professors of the Church on man's condition before God, the work of Christ, the best understanding of God's word, with special reference to the presentation of the Gospel as it is needed in it to men who have not enjoyed the advantages of a religious education, the construction of a sermon, etc.

Mr. School Institutes have performed the important part claimed for them in the education of Sunday School Teachers, and he thought there were no men who would deny it, then, he said, let us have Institutes in which our laymen may receive the instruction they so greatly need. Certainly the teaching of Christ to men is as important as the teaching of Him to children, and we should be able as intelligently to present Him to the one as to the other. If we need all the education and training possible to give to the one, do we not in the other?

Mr. Miller was surprised that anybody should oppose the resolution. We want to know how to do this perfectly. We want to know how to approach the different classes of men. He liked the work of the Doctors of Divinity and Theological Professors in the churches.

Mr. Franklin Tuxbury, Brandon, Vt., said it was a grand mistake to think that theological professors could teach laymen

how to preach. He had come 1,000 miles to hear young men tell how they did the work, but he would not go a mile to hear any Professor.

Rev. T. N. Hascall, of Aurora, Ill., offered the following substitute for the original resolution :

Resolved, That Laymen's Institutes for the cultivation of the desire and ability to perform earnest, Christian labor in lay preaching, and conducting religious meetings in waste places, &c., are deemed by this Convention as important in this country at the present time.

His reasons for urging the substitute were, that the resolution proposed from Cincinnati pledged the Convention to the establishment of certain institutes of training. The substitute did not while it would also call out the heart, soul and brain of the layman.

A motion to table the substitute was lost, likewise an appeal from the decision of the Chair, declaring the motion lost.

E. M. Boynton, Brooklyn, moved to amend the resolution, as follows :

Resolved, That we recommend that one day of the several State Conventions be devoted to Laymen's Institutes and Lectures by eminent speakers.

The amendment was lost.

The question then recurred on the original resolution, and on a *viva voce* vote was declared lost. Several delegates urged that they had not voted understandingly, and the Chairman, Geo. H. Stuart, again put the question on the resolution, and it was lost.

Colonel John W. Ray, Ind., moved to send the whole matter to the Business Committee.

Ruled out of order.

C. J. Littlefield, Chairman of the Committee on Devotional Meetings reported the following list of appointments for the Sabbath, made at the request of the various churches and Sabbath schools :

MERIDIAN STREET M. E. CHURCH, corner of New-York and Meridian Streets.—Quarterly Meeting services, Rev. B. F. Rawlins, Presiding Elder. Preaching this evening at 8 o'clock by Rev. J. W. T. McMullen. To-morrow morning at 10:30 o'clock, by Rev. P. Crone, of Scranton, Pa.; at 8 o'clock in the evening by Rev. J. W. Hamilton, of Boston, Mass. Sabbath School at 2 o'clock, addressed

Burney and J. L. White. Y. M. C. A. sacramental services at 3:30
Feast, Monday Evening.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—Morning, Rev. Shepherd Wells and D. L.
day School, R. Weidensall and James D. Reid.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—Morning, Hon. S. S. Fisher and H. Thane
day School, G. E. Lovejoy and Dr. W. N. Herriott.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—Morning, G. A. Hall, R. C. Morse and
day School, Glen. Wood and M. H. Sargent.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—Morning, S. P. Rolland and M. C.
Sunday School, David Warner, E. L. Taylor, Columbus.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—Morning, Rev. O. S. Dean and C. E.
day School, Rev. Shepherd Wells and H. A. Starks.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—Morning, O. B. Douglass and T. K. Cree;
ool, Rev. O. S. Dean and H. W. Adams.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—Morning, K. A. Burnell; Sunday
Simons and W. W. Bowditch.

PTIST CHURCH.—Morning, C. H. Spaulding; Sunday School, K.
and D. W. Glass.

BAPTIST CHURCH, (Colored).—Morning, James D. Reid and W. J.
unday School, R. H. Hinckley and E. A. Wilson.

REET BAPTIST CHURCH.—Morning, H. J. Cowles and C. E. Chi-
day School, 9 A. M., John K. Ferman and John G. Silver.

PARK M. E. CHURCH.—C. Brainerd and J. S. Maclean; Sunday
thane Miller and C. E. Chichester.

M. E. CHURCH.—Morning, Rev. C. C. Kimball and J. W. Ellis;
ool, C. Brainerd and Alfred Wicks.

M. E. CHURCH.—Morning, Hon. C. N. Olds and M. H. Sargent;
ool, C. J. Littlefield and John H. Cheever.

M. E. CHURCH.—Morning, Rev. W. J. Heath and S. M. Hotch-
School, Rev. C. C. Kimball and Wm. Edsall.

E. CHURCH.—Morning, W. W. Bowditch; Sunday School, C. C.
Ben. C. Wetmore.

H CHURCH.—Morning, Prof. T. N. Hascall and P. B. Simons; Sun-
S. Cupples and Rev. S. B. Barnitz.

VER CHURCH.—Morning, F. G. Ensign; Sunday School, O. B.
and L. P. Rowland, Jr.

LUTHERAN.—Morning, Rev. S. B. Barnitz; Sunday School, J. C.
and Wm. Frey.

BRETHREN.—Morning, G. Hagne and E. R. Sullivan; Sunday
K. Jennings and C. J. Littlefield.

M. E. CHURCH.—Morning, Rev. W. M. Baker; Sunday School,
on and Thomas D. Logan.

CHURCH.—Morning, Dr. Seymour and A. W. Bell; Sunday School,
or and A. J. Chase.

REET M. E. CHURCH.—Morning, Rev. R. McMillen and Rev. Mr.
day School, J. E. Durand and Prof. H. K. Spence.

VANGELICAL CHURCH.—Afternoon, John C. Bartram.

HOME OF THE FRIENDLESS.—Afternoon, K. A. Burnell.

CHRISTIAN CHAPEL.

GERMAN M. E. CHURCH.

AFRICAN M. E. CHURCH.

A Union service will be held for the south part of the city on Sunday evening at 8 P. M., at Ames Methodist Episcopal Church, presided over by Hon. S. S. Fisher, of Washington. Revs. William Brown and J. W. Ellis will address the audience.

Open-air meetings will be held at the following places to-morrow at 4:30 P. M.

RAY'S PASTURE, west end of Vermont Street,

OLD CEMETERY,

COOPER SHOP, West Georgia Street,

CORNER OF WASHINGTON AND NOBLE STREETS,

CORNER OF WASHINGTON AND ILLINOIS STREETS,

UNION DEPOT,

Delegates are invited to attend at the jail at 9 A. M., and at

MEMORIAL CHAPEL (MISSION SCHOOL), corner of Christian Avenue and Bellefontaine Street. The regular Sunday School exercises will be suspended, and instead H. J. Cowles and Lang Sheaff will be present and address the meeting at 9 A. M. All are invited. There will be no services in the afternoon.

NORTHEASTERN CHAPEL (MISSION SCHOOL), corner of Cherry Street and Broadway.

GARDEN MISSION, corner of Washington Street and Canal.

RIVERSIDE MISSION.

ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL—Rev. Treadwell Walden, rector; services to-morrow at 10:30 A. M. and 7:45 P. M.; Sunday School at 9 A. M.

MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, St. Clair, corner of East Street—Rev. F. G. Essign, of Chicago, will speak at 10:30 A. M.; Sabbath School at 2 P. M., to be addressed by L. P. Rowland, Jr., of Boston, and others.

BETHLEHEM CHRISTIAN MISSION, Indiana avenue—Services to-morrow at 10:30 A. M. and 8 o'clock, P. M. Preaching in the morning by Elder L. H. Jameson; in the evening by Delegates attending the Convention of the Young Men's Christian Associations. Sunday School at 3:45 P. M.

A relay meeting Sabbath morning, commencing at 6:30 A. M. to continue until 9:30, consisting of the following exercises: Prayer meeting from 6:30 to 7:30, to be conducted by Shepherd Wells, of St. Louis; consecration meeting from 7:30 to 8:30, to be led by K. A. Burnell, of Illinois; prayer meeting from 8:30 to 9:30, to be led by D. L. Moody, of Chicago.

Also, at 4:30 P. M., in the SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, a boys' prayer meeting, to be conducted by H. M. Moore, of Massachusetts.

Any churches not mentioned in the above list that desire to have members of the Convention assigned to assist in their services, may make application to C. J. Littlefield, Chairman of the Committee.

The Convention then sang,

"Blest be the tie that binds."

Joane, Cincinnati, moved to reconsider the action of the
 respecting Lay Institutes.

ion was laid on the table.

President Spaulding in the Chair.

vention then proceeded to the discussion of the next

The best method of securing Association Buildings."

Davis, of Burlington, Vt., opened the discussion.

peak to the question as it relates to the Associations in towns
 ies. No method will avail without full faith in the permanence
 ciations. I would suggest :

t with the pastors and leading Christian men of the City. Show
 d of a building. Use the religious and secular press. Act in har-
 ne Churches

et no debt. In large cities, with high rent, it may do, but *not* in
 a building free from debt, no question of the usefulness or per-
 n Association need be raised.

o raise the Money? is the great question. Come forward in a
 o Christian men and ask it for Christ's sake. God has all the
 ant. "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof." We have
 with clean hearts, a single purpose, to glorify the Master, and we

ort to any questionable measures to raise money. If our object is
 own, and if our lives as followers of Jesus will not commend us,
 labor and pray until we *are* known and commended.

t being the glory of God, the means to accomplish it should be
 lding thus reared will be honored by the Master of Assemblies,
 ys be useful to the Church of Christ.

ake a Stock Company of it. The same men will give as much, or
 ed their help. "God will provide" should be our motto, and to
 all the glory. As heirs of God and joint heirs with the Lord Jesus
 ve no need of stock nor dividends in this matter.

ne amount necessary in money or pledges before commencing a
 his may be done by apportioning the amount to districts, or better
 most suitable person in each Church raise their part, payable in
 alments. A man will give \$5 per month, for ten months, that
 abscribe \$50 nor \$25. Any Association doing earnest Christian
 t want for money. Let me refer to Shoreham, Vt., a town of 1,392

The Association owns a building costing from \$2,000 to \$2,500,
 of nearly \$2 per inhabitant, whereas the average cost of the
 ilding in N. Y. City is about 75 cents. It required the wool of
 the butter and cheese from many farms, and the picking of many
 to pay for their building in Shoreham.

g Ladies Christian Association of Burlington, Vt., deserve and re-
 y support, because of their labors of love. Their work commends

4. Place the funds for building in the hands of a Board of Trustees composed of men far above reproach.

5. Buy the best lot in town, rather than accept as a donation a poor lot. Satan seldom errs in a selection of lots of land.

Perhaps a building can be purchased and repaired to advantage.

6. Provide just such a building as your town requires rather than copy some other. Establish a free religious "Exchange," as indispensable as the Post-Office.

7. Arrange for stores or rooms to let, if it can be done without detriment to your own wants ; not otherwise.

8. Exercise great care in renting the hall, store or rooms. Having dedicated a temple to the worship of God, do not defile it by allowing it to be used for improper purposes.

Frank D. Taylor, Detroit, Mich., said,

Any Association that is full of the spirit of the Master and doing His work, can get a building. That is their experience in Detroit. Every Association ought to have a building in which they can meet. If business men see that we are active and in earnest, they will subscribe liberally. "By their fruits ye shall know them."

Samuel Cupples, St. Louis,

Felt satisfied, if we convince the business men of our cities that the Associations are doing a good work for their young men, they will sustain us, and until we convince them that we benefit the stranger youth, our Associations will not have buildings erected for them.

K. A. Burnell, Ill., said,

The difficulty with our committees is, that they are not impressed with the fact that young men are being ruined by hundreds and thousands because they did not visit the saloons and places of vice.

The time for the discussion having elapsed, on motion, twenty minutes more were allotted for the continuation of the debate.

K. A. Burnell continued his remarks, urging that the Association rooms ought to be attractive and on the ground floor, and that the Association work is a branch of the Church work as much as is the Sunday School.

D. L. Moody, Chicago, said,

He thought the best way was to get a public meeting, and then send off and get men to speak at it who will draw the men of wealth. Lay the claims of the Association before these men. If God's spirit is there, these moneyed men will give. Then appoint a committee of Christian men of wealth, first class men, in whom every one has confidence, and set them to work.

A short time ago I wanted to raise six thousand dollars, and I made a committee of sixty. They said they couldn't do the work, but they gave one hundred

each. So I got the money. Put the whole town on the committee. Put the Christian people on it. It is a good thing. Strike for a building, all the waves of hell cannot prevail against us. We go up five flights of stairs to the Association rooms. After a man high, he don't feel much like praying. Another thing is, that we did for big enough things. I asked once for one hundred thousand God gave me two hundred and fifty thousand. If we had asked we would have been given more. Ask God for great things, and then great things will be done.

Winckley, Jr., Philadelphia,

at a public meeting. But in Philadelphia they printed their wants and sent shrewd men around to the capitalists and thus obtained what they needed. First, let them know what you want; then follow persistently and you will get what you want.

C. Pugh, Xenia, O., said the liberal example of two Association rooms. The plan suggested by Bro. succeeded with them.

Business and Devotional Committees announced their resolutions the afternoon, which were accepted, and the Convention closed with the Benediction pronounced by the Rev. S. T. Pittsburg.

FRIDAY.—AFTERNOON SESSION.

P. M. the Convention came to order, at the call of Bro. Maclean, and were led in devotional exercises by the Rev. P. Kretching, of Amsterdam, N. Y., after which the resolutions were read and approved.

Bro.icus being in order, G. L. Morse, New-York, offered one resolution of Association Rooms on Sunday.

Bro. Douglass, Brattleboro, Vt., one on Rooms for Exhibitions and Papers at Convention.

Bro. Wm. Frew, Pittsburg, one on Triennial meetings.

The Business Committee made a special report, changing the afternoon's exercise, as follows: 1. Discussion of the resolutions proposed by the Executive Committee. 2. Answers to resolutions. 3. Discussion of the 6th question of the Executive

Committee. 4. Report of the Committee on the Executive Committee's Report. 5. Report of the Lecture Bureau.

The Report was accepted and adopted.

Hon. C. C. Lathrop, from the Committee on Associations reported as follows :

With respect to the resolution of Mr. Wm. Edsall, of Brooklyn N. Y., that the control of our Associations should be left entirely in the hands of the young men—members of the same—the adoption of the following resolution is recommended :

Resolved, That we deem it advisable to leave this matter to the several Associations, for them to act as their circumstances and surroundings may require.

Your Committee also recommend the adoption of the suggestions contained in the resolution of Professor A. K. Spence, of Michigan University, Ann Arbor, as follows :

Resolved, That this Convention hails with joy the organization, in some of our Academies and Colleges, of Young Men's Christian Associations, and commends this feature of our work in behalf of the young men of America, and hopes that Christian Associations may be planted wherever practicable in our Academies, Colleges and Universities, and that we urge especially such Societies already existing that they seek to extend their work in this important field.

The Report was accepted and adopted as a whole.

Vice-President Chase in the chair.

The next order was the consideration of the 7th topic of the Executive Committee.

7. *"The Associations of America, not simply isolated organizations engaged in a local work, but charged also with the duty of a large and important service, in the Saviour's name, for each other, and for the young men of the whole continent."*

Cephas Brainerd, of New-York, spoke in substance as follows

I take this position by command of the Business Committee and not of my choice. The members of the Executive Committee agree in the thought, that the Associations as a body, do not at all times look upon each other as organizations engaged in the same work, with that sympathy and interest necessary for the greatest success of all. While they are in legal effect wholly independent of each other, they should yet be bound together by a cord stronger than paper constitutions or resolutions. The feeling should pervade them all, that they are engaged in a common work for the young men of the whole continent, and that the prosperity of one is a cause for gratitude on the part of every other.

nable limits the discussions of the Conventions should proceed, and a policy should be adopted which will tend directly to enforce it. Necessarily all feelings of jealousy and rivalry between Associations or individuals, are inconsistent with the idea presented by the great results which would follow from its hearty adoption. Acquainted with the Associations have seen this feeling of jealousy exhibited in various forms, and even upon the floor of the Conventions. I am glad to bear testimony from the considerable experience has been my lot, that this spirit has almost wholly disappeared. Associations are coming nearer and nearer together, and the one hundred thousand young men who now compose them are pressing onward—their elbows touching each other in the great work for the evangelizing the young men of the continent, which He has in a peculiar manner committed to them. This feeling of unity, and this sympathy the one cannot become too strong. I would see its power so overwhelming there could be no division between us upon minor matters; but seeing the professed objects of our Societies, our debate should be as to the means and the attainment of the largest powers to render them available. Lively and earnest discussion we have had for many years, was that presented at the Portland Convention on the evangelical test of active

It was not, shall that test be adopted; but conceding that, what may be used strong and unmistakable, to declare our belief in Jesus Christ as a Divine Person in the Trinity, that constituting the vital test. I would have all our discussion rise equally high. As these Associations increase from the eight hundred we now number, to the sixteen hundred we shall soon count, I would have the spirit contemplated increase with that increase, and grow with that growth, until it reach every Association in the most remote town, and all its members feel that they are united in heart and hand with the members of every Association on earth; so all-pervasive would I have it, that the most timid of our young men, when he rises to address an out-door meeting, should realize that the presence of Christ is in spirit by his side, almost as he realizes that the Holy Spirit in him thus seeks to imitate, is with him in his work, in literal fulfillment of the final promise made to the disciples.

I mention some of the means—many of them seemingly small in themselves, which may be useful for the attainment of these results.

The general adoption of the Certificate of Life Membership, prepared by the Convention of previous Conventions. If at all adapted, as I thoroughly believe it to be, expressing by its design some phases of our special work, it may be largely used, but help to foster this unity of feeling and of action of our young men.

The form for introducing the members of one Association to another, and acknowledgment also, as recommended in the report of the Committee, may be adopted. Let it be an invariable rule that every member severing connection with one Association shall be introduced by the use of it to the place whither he is going. So let us make these removals and transfers a transfer from one field to a kindred service of the same brotherhood.

State Conventions should also be made available. Every Association should know of the time and place of each of these meetings. It should

be their privilege to be represented in them by corresponding members, and regular appointments of delegates from one State Convention to another should be made. Of course, the Executive Committee should be represented in every local Convention, and they can testify from a partially successful effort to realize this suggestion last year, to its very great advantages.

(4.) The formal welcome meeting of the past should give place, in both the local and the general Conventions, to a meeting purely social in its character. We need no such gathering for high eloquence and large display, but we do need a meeting which will enable the delegates, before they enter upon their solemn work which has called them together, to become acquainted with each other. I am opposed to throwing a number of serious and earnest men together upon the floor of a Convention, without some previous acquaintance. It is too much to expect of them that they will always harmonize. They will sometimes disagree radically, debate sharply, criticise severely, and mainly because they are strangers and cannot understand each other. Had I dissented from the action of the Portland Convention—as I did not—which forbid the formal welcome meeting from that time, my experience at the Ohio Convention, last October, would have convinced me of my error. There the delegates to the Convention—and it was a large one—drank a cup of tea with the citizens, were introduced to them and to each other, and when the meeting closed the brethren all felt that they were acquainted not only with each other but with the citizens of Mansfield; they really felt at home. It did not seem possible after that meeting, that there should be serious disagreement in the Convention or a lack of interest in it on the part of the inhabitants of Mansfield; and one result was the placing of over \$1,200 in the treasury of the State Association, for the prosecution of the State work during the year. I desire to see the first meeting of the next Convention sacredly set apart for social intercourse among the delegates and the people of the city where we meet, to the end that we may begin the great business which will call us together, with a knowledge of each other's names, and that peculiar interest in each other which comes from the hearty grasp of a brother's hand. I want no speeches, but a great deal of conversation, and in this I believe I speak the sentiments of an overwhelming majority. After such a meeting it will be hardly possible for us to quarrel.

(5.) Let the Hymn Book, in which we have such a considerable pecuniary interest be adopted by all the Associations. Let us sing the praises of the Lord in the use of the same hymns to the same tunes from the same books.

(6.) Let us distribute amongst our members news from all the Associations, give each an opportunity to know what the other is doing. Let us share in everything which encourages. Let us help the defeated and the desponding by an active sympathy, which can only come from a knowledge of their conditions to make head against adverse circumstances. Let us have the best possible discussion of the various phases of our work, and the modes for prosecuting it within reach of every member. Let us secure their results through the Association *Monthly*—a creation of your own. Tell me why the Associations should not have the very best means of building up themselves and each other by building up and circulating their paper? They can, with inconsiderable effort, make it a source of revenue to themselves, ample for the support of all the general work contemplated by this Convention and devolved upon the Executive Committee for performance.

(7.) Let the agents recommended in the Report of the Executive Committee

ained in the field, working in connection with and with the approbation of the local authorities—one at the West, one at the South, and one at the North in Canada.

At the Day of Prayer, as recommended by the Convention be universally

Our field of service is the young men of the Continent; our object is moral and intellectual advancement, and their conversion to Christ. We wish to stir the heart of the coldest; it invokes all the power of the Spirit. Can we hope to accomplish our purpose without Almighty aid? In one great meeting, the Continent over, bow together on the one side our Elder Brother and our King, invoking His blessing upon and His aid in the work to which we have put our hands, without our hearts drawn together in love for it and in love for each other?

Do not forget that years ago the Southern States were as largely represented at the Conventions as any other section. The Associations there were as numerous, the members as earnest and enthusiastic, and their delegates as wise in counsel and earnest in exhortation, as devout in prayer, as spiritual in life as those of the North. Of late they have sent up few representatives. Those Associations have almost disappeared. I long to see them re-organize, and in this I am not alone. The Convention should especially have this field in view. As regards the South, it challenges our sympathy and demands our aid; and in the work of evangelization seems to have committed to these Associations, the helping of every brother at the South, be he white or black, is needed. But there is no one who can speak upon this point better than I, and let me, Mr. President, exercise your rights in presenting the Rev. Joseph W. Malone, of Louisville, Ky., who in crossing the Ohio River for the first time comes to the Convention of his brethren in this Convention.

Malone said,

I congratulate myself upon having the privilege of looking down upon a sea of faces aglow with the love of the Saviour. I feel that I am in company with good men who are not only willing to offer their hearts to Jesus, but who are consecrated their time, their energies and their property to the service of Him unto whom we all belong. I think, sir, that one of the best ways of creating a better feeling between the North and the South, is for us to have an interchange of feeling. If we could induce our brethren from the South to come here to witness your devotions, listen to your songs of praise, and your prayers, I am assured that they would feel indeed that you are brethren. We are too much disposed to stand and wait until we are pressed by the arms of each other, and into the service of the Master. There are very many volunteers in these days, persons who are willing to start out at the first call, to rush into the breach to speak for Jesus, to take by the hand the heathen and to clasp to the heart those having need of help.

Our brethren at the South, some of them feel that they are not wanted in the National Conventions, and I think the very best way to break down this prejudice is to send such brethren as did come last year to speak to us here in Jesus. When Brother Miller came to speak to us, there was a large number in the Association of Louisville, and there was a crowd of men into the Association who had hitherto stood cold. We ask your sympathy and material aid. We have enough of that; we wish most of all to feel

and see that you are interested in our prosperity, and wish us to draw nearer to that Saviour who died for us.

We have not any lay preachers in the South. I know of no one man in the South who preaches on the street corners, and in the highways. Last night, when locking my arm in that of a beloved brother, I went to the street corner, and listened to the Brother from Chicago; my heart melted, and I could have sat at his feet as I desired to be more earnest in the future in preaching to my people.

Brethren, we wish to see you in the South; and if you come and visit us it will not be four years before the grand old South will stretch forth her hands to you, and we will be again accepted in your Conventions as was the glorious South before the war divided us.

The Convention arose, and joined in singing

"Blest be the tie that Binds,"

after which Mr. H. Thane Miller led in prayer that all hearts might be united in love, and that at the next Convention the South might be fully represented.

Vice-President Cheever in the Chair.

The Convention then gave audience to a delegation from the "Young Converts" Association, of Indianapolis. One of these, Master George Newcomer, told how seven converted boys, on May 27th, 1869, had met together for prayer and formed the nucleus of this present Society of 75 members. They hold prayer meetings every week, at which the average attendance in the winter is 40, and 25 in the summer. Their work is chiefly to reclaim the boot-blacks, news-boys, and runaway scholars.

H. Thane Miller, by request, replied for the Convention, expressing pleasure at meeting them, and encouraging them to continue in the right way.

On motion, the three young delegates were made Corresponding Members of the Convention.

On motion of Geo. H. Stuart, Col. John Blake, the oldest citizen of Indianapolis, and the oldest Sunday-school worker, also, was invited to a seat on the platform.

After Col. Blake's brief reply, acknowledging the courtesy, Mr. Stuart said that, when the Convention had opened, he took the liberty to telegraph to Gen. O. O. Howard, that special prayers for him had been offered up by the Convention, to which he had just received the following reply :

ank you a thousand times, my brother, for your dispatch. Please read 7 and 18; also, Eph. iii., 16.

"O. O. HOWARD."

THE QUESTION DRAWER.

time for the opening of the Question Drawer having arrived, exercise was conducted by H. K. Porter, Chairman of the Press Committee.

questions and answers were,

Question 1.—Addressed to Mr. McBurney, by D. A. Williams, of Missouri. Men are coming West without letters from Associations, leaving churches without good influence, for that which is bad, because they have no record, and no introduction to friends. Will not letters from home Associations correct this evil, and lead them to seek Western Associations and good influence?

Answer.—Yes, I think they would. Whenever we know of young men West, we should give them letters of introduction, and also letters to the Association in the town to which they go, telling them that these young men are there. Many pastors know of young men going to other cities, and in giving them letters, encourage them to retain their membership with the Association in the plea that they may not settle in the new place. Half the young men who come to New-York come without letters, and drift away and are lost to the Association influence. Would to God that the pastors of our land were more careful on this point.

—Addressed to Rev. George A. Hall, Washington, D. C. — What is your experience as regards young men who come to you seeking employment? Do they generally prove worthy?

Answer.—Every such case that we have had has proved a worthy one. I had time to tell you some that are marked, in the prosperity that has attended them.

—To H. Thane Miller—Is there any impropriety in disposing of articles of Association, in a fair, for the benefit of Associations?

Answer.—Certainly.

—To H. Thane Miller—Is not clapping of hands as legitimate an expression of approval and of joy, as a shout in the camp of Israel?

Answer.—Well, I was born a sort of Methodist; and if I could not clap or approve in some way, in a meeting, I would—*burst*.

—To H. T. Miller—Should the Superintendent or Secretary of an Association be expected to raise its funds?

Answer.—Never.

—Does H. Thane Miller consider it wise for Young Men's Christian Associations to engage in fairs, as a means of raising their finances?

Answer—I am afraid of two things in this world—a pic-nic and a fair ; but, for anybody who is not afraid of them, I cannot see anything wrong in them, when not connected with raffling or chance.

Q. 7.—To D. L. Moody—Is it advisable for unconverted men to serve on committees? If so, under what circumstances?

Answer.—Well, if you want to carry a corpse, put them on. A man that is dead has to be carried. I think that one man with Christ in his soul is worth a thousand of those without Christ.

Q. 8.—To D. L. Moody—How can faithful and punctual leaders be secured for noon prayer meetings?

Answer.—Well, that is a pretty difficult question. It takes, perhaps, a good deal of time to educate people up. It also depends on where you are. We have not any difficulty now, but we had at first. We want men to give the key-note in about three minutes, and then get out of the way.

Q. 9.—What is the best course to adopt to make the regular monthly meeting interesting and profitable?

Answer by Mr. McBurney, New-York :

1. Thorough preparation should be made for the meeting at least a month in advance.

2. Meetings should commence precisely at the hour appointed.

3. Singing should be spirited, with instrumental accompaniment, if possible.

4. All the exercises should be carried through with energy.

5. After the opening exercises and the reading of the minutes, brief, pointed reports should be made by the Chairmen of the various Committees.

6. Committees having financial and merely secular matters in charge, should report to the Board of Directors, and not at the monthly meetings of the members. On no account let finances mar the interest of the monthly meetings.

7. The Chairman of each Committee should be notified of these meetings, so that if unable to attend he may have time to report a substitute to the Secretary.

8. If the members of the Association are not fully informed on Association work ; and if the Committees but partially understand their duties, and the best mode of performing them, I would, in arranging for the first meeting, have an essay prepared on the work of the first Committee on the list, by a person who would take pains to inform himself on the manner in which the work is performed elsewhere.

9. The essay ought not to exceed fifteen minutes in length.

Three or four members of the Association should be seen in relation to the matter, and understand that after the essay has been read, they should be able to open a prompt and intelligent discussion of the topic under consideration in three or five minute addresses.

When essays have been read on the work of all the Committees, and your members appear to understand the work to which they have pledged themselves, to each other, to the Church, and to the world, let essays be read on practical subjects, in harmony with the objects of the Association ; of course exclude political and sectarian discussions in essay form—it should find no place in the meetings or rooms of the Association.

An address by an intelligent person, calculated to interest or instruct the members, might be advantageously substituted for the essay.

nally some very simple and inexpensive refreshments, such as tea, rolls, have made the meetings more social and attractive.

To D. L. Moody—What is the best way to commence Christian work

—Our experience has been to get a good singer. Music has a influence over them. Get a good singer and lead off by singing "Star-Spangled Banner," or some such song. That will gain attention, and then, after a time, ask them shall we not sing "There is a Blood with Blood." It will not be long till the tears begin to flow from their cheeks. Then take out your Bible, and read the story of the prodigal son, then talk to them of Jesus. When you get ready to leave, ask them to attend the meetings with you.

Mr. W. L. Garrison, of Baltimore, being asked the same question, said, "I can not better express the answer than in the language of Mr. Moody, 'The bar-room, not with a long face, but cheerfully; we should not discourage them.' Last month, in that way, we held 57 bar-room prayer meetings, and I have seen scores of men on their knees in these saloons. Men were led from the bar-room to the prayer meeting. During the last month we have not been insulted over half a dozen times."

To D. L. Moody—Do ministers give their cordial support to the Association in your city; if not, what are their objections?

—I do not know all the ministers of the Gospel in Chicago, who are not with us; but if any ministers of the Gospel are not in sympathy with the Association, it is the fault of the Association.

Mr. D. L. Moody—Shall we have Association sociables; and how many?

—That is difficult; some are profitable; I cannot throw any light on the subject.

To D. L. Moody—Is it right to have bowling alleys and other games in New-York City, connected with the Y. M. C. Association?

—I think Brother McBurney is the best man to answer that question. I have been afraid of them; burned children are afraid of fire; I once burned for them; but I do not like the name of Association attached to them if they are found; still I am watching the Association in New-York City.

McBurney said,

"We have never been the advocates of amusement in the rooms of the Association, but were always on the other side. Our gymnasium and bowling alleys have been constructed for physical culture. Young men who are engaged in mercantile business during the day find it a pleasant place of recreation. As for the chess table, I would say, that, when we were purchasing the chess table was purchased by the furnishing Committee. We have not had any bad result from its use yet."

To D. L. Moody—Have open-air meetings in Chicago ever been embarrassed by the opposition of spiritualists and infidels; and if so, how have the embarrassments been overcome?

Answer.—Ours were at first ; they were overcome with a great deal of trouble ; we had a great deal of opposition for months, especially from one old man, who tried to wear me out. It was a kind of a draw-game.

Q. 15. To Geo. H. Stuart—Is it best to allow males over forty years of age to hold the position of active members ?

Answer.—If their hearts are as young as Col. Blake's I would keep them in until they die ; but I would have our officers as young as possible, that the youth might be attracted to the meetings.

Q. 16. To Geo. H. Stuart—We want a Building Fund at Kansas City, numbering 40,000 inhabitants. How shall we go to work to raise it ? What are the best means to be used, and is it right for us to borrow money for that purpose ?

Answer.—I would get \$5 from every inhabitant, and would come out at the dedication and get some brother to give for those who could not.

Q. 17. Will Mr. Stuart give his opinion regarding sitting during praise and prayer ? Does it tend to hurt a meeting ?

Answer. It ought to be left very much to the inclination of the individual. For myself, when perfectly well, I would prefer to get on my knees. But I think that whichever way you can best get your thoughts from the world is the best way.

Q. 18. Respecting the resolution on Railroad Literature placed in the drawer to be answered by L. P. Rowland, Jr., of Boston ?

Answer.—I think it would be inexpedient. In figuring up, I find it would cost \$3,153 for the boxes. The best way is to have a Christian young man stand and deliver the card or paper in each coach, to contain suitable religious reading matter, and that the Associations along the lines of such roads be requested to keep such boxes supplied.

Mr. Gimble, of Erie, Pa., contended that the box plan would result in good. Persons will read on the cars, and we ought to use the cars as a means of grace.

Vice-President Chichester in the Chair.

After singing, the Convention proceeded to the discussion of the question :

6. *The importance of embracing German young men in our efforts for the increase of Associations, the character and success of such efforts as have been heretofore made ; and the best plans for the further prosecution of this work.*

The first speaker, Rev. J. W. Stuckenburg, of Pittsburgh, said :

Although quite unexpectedly to me, it is with great pleasure that I speak upon this question, because it is a most important question, and, also, because I am German, born there and partly educated there, and because I have been intimately associated with the German work in this country.

we do to bring the German young men into our Associations and immediate influence? There are supposed to be in the United States of Germans and their descendants. Of this number some are and some are infidels, but a large number of them are members of churches.

It is well that many of the parents are beyond our reach. They have imprinted into their hearts principles that seem to be fixed there; but when we can do something for them. We can get at the children. We can go to the men, take them by the hand, and bring them into our Associations. The prejudice in the minds of many Germans against the Christian Associations is no wonder. As long as we hear persons speak of the Germans as being prejudiced against us. As long as you speak of them as "beer-drinkers" you prejudice them against us. As long as you speak of them as "Sabbath breakers" you prejudice them against your Associations, churches and Sabbath observances. But as soon as you come to recognize that there are among these Germans many noble young men who are willing to stand up for the truth and for Christ as any of you, just as you recognize the fact that many of your own most faithful members, you will begin to win the sympathy, the hearts and the hands of the young men of this country and of the British Provinces.

Who understands the Germans of this country, and every one who knows what a power they are wielding for good or for evil, must recognize the importance of winning them to Jesus Christ. This skepticism that exists towards them is not as general as we suppose. I believe that there is to-day among the German young men of this country much more sincere piety than we give them credit for, as a general rule.

As to the best plans that may be adopted. I can say but little of the efforts made heretofore, or of the success or failure of German Christian Associations. I suppose you expect me to say something about it, or it would be best to bring our Germans into the English speaking churches, or to form separate German Associations. My answer would be: that a great many German young men in a city who do not understand English, give them by all means a German Association, where all can be conducted in their own language; but I would say, if possible, bring the German young men into your English speaking Association.

There are many reasons for this. I am heartily in favor of the plan of forming an Association in New-York, as I understand it, and I have been in many other German Associations; but let me tell you that the German young men of this country need much of the elevation that is to be found in the English speaking societies. We need your energy, your decision, your fearlessness, and much that is not to be found, as a rule, in the German churches. In all German churches it frequently happens that the laity have more influence than the clergy.

You Americans need a little of what we Germans have, and we need a little more of your considerateness and moderation. We need a little more of your determination to take a stand, and of that firmness of character, as fixed as a rock. You need a little more of what we Germans have, and we need something of what you have got, and thus we need to love and love each other.

Use the influence of German Associations where there are many Germans. Use

the German young men as a power among the Germans. Let them go to the pastors of the German churches and get their co-operation in this great work. I hope you will be able to see that we Germans will excite a great interest among the Germans in connection with the Associations.

And when you have Germans in your English speaking Associations, give them now and then a paper and a book translated into the German language. You will find Doddridge's "Rise and Progress" in German, and Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress" and a great number of good books translated into the German language, in addition to those originally German. Give them now and then a lecture in German, or a sermon in German—something that touches the German heart and soul, and makes them feel that they are not despised as "contemptible Dutchmen."

Another thing: do not expect us to come right in with you and be Americans. We cannot do it. You must not expect us to be just as you are. If Germans are in the Convention, do not expect them to pop up at every question that is suggested. Do not expect them to be as demonstrative as you are. And if they are a little more quiet than others, do not attribute it to a lack of religious feeling. Remember there are emotions that are too deep for tears, and there is a walking with God whose footfalls are not heard in the rounds of applause.

J. C. Bartram, St. Louis, said,

I have but little to say in addition to what my eloquent brother has already said on this highly important subject, and even before I proceed, I wish to say that ever since the opening day of the Convention, I have felt exceedingly happy to find myself among such a vast assemblage of men from all parts of the country, who have come for such a good and glorious object, who have come for our Great Redeemer's sake, and who are here I am confident with an earnest desire not to leave this place without having done at least some little work in furtherance of the cause of our beloved Saviour Jesus Christ. I wish with all my heart, that the work of this Convention may turn out to be a blessing to all its representatives and to all those who may be influenced by it. When I met this Convention on the opening day, when I joined you in praying and singing, I felt deeply impressed, and thought of that great Pentecost of which the Holy Scriptures tell us in Acts, 2d chap.

Now for my Report, which will be a mere local one of the Association work of St. Louis, since, as I stated before, I have little to add to those remarks which the brother who spoke before me has already presented to the Convention.

There are, according to the best of my knowledge, not many over 200 members forming the German Association of St. Louis; but of that number only about 100 belong to the so-called Evangelical Church, while the others are Methodists, Baptists, etc. The latter number, however, is to be sub-divided again, into three or four smaller societies, which have each of them their own constitution and management, but which are not very different from each other. It is our desire in the course of time, and if the Lord our God permits, to form one compact Association, which, in the main principles and arrangements, shall be organized like the Associations of our Anglo-American brethren of St. Louis. The preliminary measures of such a step have already been taken in the establishment of an Executive Committee, in which three of our Evangelical societies are now represented by delegates. These slight but laudable efforts were made

ces of Bro. Robert Weidensall, of Omaha, whose indefatigable
 Germans of St. Louis during his short stay there, are highly

German Christians sympathise with the Association work with
 ; and if they are doubtful or dilatory in taking action on the
 rely for want of sufficient knowledge of the true nature of Chris-
 as existing in many cities, towns and other places of this
 they come in large numbers to this Convention they would have
 after understanding as to the great and glorious objects of the
 brethren ; but the time will come, and may not be far distant
 will, in large numbers, attend these Conventions and join their
 ing and praying to God the Almighty Father, whose beloved
 was offered up to save us from perdition.

need the help and the encouragement of their brethren, espe-
 cially in Babylon, where the waves of infidelity and blasphemy
 are, and where ruin and eternal death will destroy their victims.
 be successful and victorious, and able to triumph over their foes,
 ever they meet them. May God, the Almighty, hearken to our
 prayer in that sacred cause, of which our beloved Saviour, Jesus
 is the Author and the Finisher.

Weidensall, of Omaha,

to be a most important subject, and hoped that the words
 would be reduced to practice. The Germans are a mighty force,
 to fight the Germans is to fight them with Germans. A busi-
 ness man wants a man who can speak both languages, because it is of
 These Germans must not be despised. The emigration now is
 Germans and Scandinavians. Whom do you want to take hold
 of? Shall it be the "Beer Drinkers" or the Christian German
 who will stand by your side, who, when they have enlisted, have
 no war? He believed the Associations ought to establish Chris-
 tianity in all the large cities, who, by devoting themselves to
 the emigrants, would work for the up-building of Christianity.
 to ignore the importance of Germans in our Associations.
 allotted for the discussion having expired, it was ex-
 amined.

Felix Brunot, Pittsburg,

nothing ought to be done on the subject, and how to reach the
 every proper matter to be discussed by the Convention. The best
 German young men, and send them out to bring in others of
 the same. It is hard work to get them into our Associations until
 they are educated.

Boyd, Monroe, Mich., said,

the Germans joined the Monroe Association, but finding the
 there was not spoken, as they did not understand the English reli-
 gion they did not feel at home. The German population is worthy of
 they are an important element in our land. Many had been
 there was no sympathy between the Americans and the Germans.
 attention rooms to them and give them our sympathies. When we

remember that they gave us Luther and Melancthon, we ought to repay debt by giving them the Christian religion.

Prof. W. O. Hiskey, as Superintendent of Schools in Minneapolis, Minn., said he was teaching the American youth the German language, and when they had learned it would turn them over to the Christian Association, to be used as missionaries.

Col. John W. Ray, Ind., said,

The Germans of Indiana had been encouraged by the English Association and had formed a German Christian Association. Every member of the Association ought to return home disabused of the idea that the Germans are "beer drinkers" and "infidels," and remember that they are descendants of Luther and Melancthon. Do not stop to form German Associations, but turn them to your Churches and Sunday Schools, and they will invite you to their homes.

After a hymn had been sung, Hon. S. S. Fisher, Washington, moved the adoption of the following resolution, as the result of the discussion :

Resolved, That our Christian Associations should extend to our German low-citizens their earnest sympathy, and endeavor to gather their young men within their influence; and where the necessity may exist, should encourage the formation of German Associations among the Germans themselves.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

Vice-President Whitney in the chair.

The report of the Committee on the Report of the Executive Committee was then read by the Chairman, Mr. S. Crosby, Grand Rapids, Michigan, and made the special order for Saturday morning.

The Rev. W. M. Martin, Brooklyn, N. Y., then read the following Report of the Lecture Bureau :

Second Annual Report of the Lecture Bureau of Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces, to the Fifteenth National Convention, Indianapolis, Ind., June 22d, 1870.

DEAR BRETHREN:—The work of the Lecture Bureau has been so widely made known by means of the circulars which it has issued, from time to time, and which have been sent to every Association on the Continent, that it is deemed unnecessary to make this report more than a brief *résumé* of what has been done, supplemented by one or two suggestions concerning its future conduct.

The past year has been marked by two very wide departures from the original plan. It is well known that the Bureau was first designed to work for the special interests of—indeed, to confine itself to—Young Men's Christian Associations. During the first two seasons of its labors this purpose was clearly in view, and no effort whatever was made to induce the patronage of other societies. But in a circular, dated March 25th, 1870, its services were offered, upon equal terms, to every society contemplating a course of lec-

ne such society might be known. The motive for this action
First, the Bureau did not receive sufficient support from
ne to pay its running expenses. Second, the great number of
from other than Young Men's Christian Associations, some of
dissatisfaction with existing agencies, and all of them desiring
he new Bureau. Third, as one of the objects in organizing the
levate the standard of popular lectures, it was deemed unwise to
s to any oneclass of societies. In this last particular your Com-
ounsel of brethren prominent in Association work, outside of the
gthen their own judgment.

Departure from the original plan, is the abolition, with a few ex-
of the commissions hitherto charged to Associations. Frequent
these charges have been received; but they have been enforced,
opinion of the Committee, the charging of large commissions to
red necessary by the non-payment of any Associational fee, has a
to advance, and in many cases *has* advanced the terms of lec-
and the stipulated fee of five per cent. While the judgment of the
his respect remains unchanged, they nevertheless have yielded to
rieshes of the Associations, and abolished commissions altogether,
ptions which will be distinctly noted in the circulars issued.

on of the Bureau field to embrace all the Lecture Associations on
will vastly increase the amount of its labor, and though the Com-
ery reason to believe the increased revenue will more than cover
must be remembered that this income will not be received till the
ecture season; they therefore recommend that some provision be
he expenses as they arise.

recommend that the Bureau be appointed for five years, with the
that it shall receive no appropriation of money, over and above
n commissions, beyond the second year.

er's Statement is appended.

Respectfully submitted,

W. M. MARTIN, *Chairman.*

NATIONAL LECTURE BUREAU OF Y. M. C. ASSOCIATIONS,
In Account with ALFRED WICKS, *Treasurer.*

Dr.

a of Executive Committee, repaid.....	\$100 00
ionery and Printing.....	123 12
ograms.....	35 47
age.....	145 44
e fire.....	21 63
etary's account of Salary.....	812 08
dries.....	68 33
	<hr/>
	\$1,306 07

Cr.

ance from old account.....	\$27 00	
Commissions received	1,305 80	\$1,306 07
E.		

BROOKLYN, June 20th, 1870.

LIABILITIES.

ecretary for Salary.....	\$1,026 69
or Printing.....	85 00
or Stationery.....	36 12
	<hr/>
	\$1,147 81

The report was referred to a Special Committee, consisting of R. R. McBurney, New-York; A. K. Spence, Ann Arbor, Mich. and E. M. Boynton, Brooklyn.

Mr. McBurney declined the appointment, and on motion, Mr. W. Pond, of Boston, was elected.

After receiving and adopting the reports of the Business and Devotional Committees, for the evening and morning sessions following, the Benediction was pronounced by the Rev. J. Magee, Dayton, and the Convention adjourned.

THE EVENING SESSION.

So many had been unable to gain admittance to the Academy on the evening previous, and so general was the public desire to hear the delegates, that it was determined to accommodate all by holding one meeting in the Academy, under the conduct of the President, and another one in the Presbyterian church opposite, under the leadership of Vice-President D. L. Moody, of Chicago. The same subject—"How to Lead Young Men to the Saviour" was considered at both meetings, before large audiences.

At the branch meeting in the church, the Hon. C. C. Lathrop, of Newark, N. J., was the first speaker, who said: "Young men are divided into two classes—Sons of wealth, who must be reclaimed by personal and persistent effort, in going to them where they may be found; and country boys, who, in coming to the city, are lured by temptation, and must be approached and won by kindness and taking an interest in them." In brief successive speeches were made by D. C. Bell, Minneapolis, Minn.; M. W. Pond, Boston; E. R. Holden, Providence, R. I., and Miss Mary Sampson, a lady who, in laboring as a missionary in iniquitous districts of London, had accomplished a remarkable work. Her recitation moved many of the audience to tears, and all who heard this singularly gifted lady will be likely to retain a vivid remembrance of her wonderful power. The succeeding speakers were: F. C.

Chicago; D. E. Small, York, Pa.; D. J. Pike, Aurora, Wm. Frew, Pittsburg, and Colgate Hoyt, Cleveland. Singing of a closing hymn, Mr. Moody converted the to a "praise meeting," and as such it was continued n o'clock.

the larger meeting had been progressing uninter- the Academy. The reading of the minutes was dis- until the morning session.

the afternoon, W. H. Doane, of Cincinnati, the ap- der of the singing of the Convention, had been called family affliction, whereupon H. Thane Miller found an ed substitute in Miss S. B. Chester, of Cincinnati, who, remainder of the Convention, presided at the organ, njunction with her brother, Mr. Chester, H. Thane Hon. S. S. Fisher, conducted the singing.

the speakers had been limited to five minutes, and the had to be observed, in order to bring the duration of g within reasonable time.

Colton, of Cleveland, thought young men were best r imagining and making the case of the perishing soul e Christian who seeks him.

W. Malone, of Louisville, Ky., said it is necessary to a young man of many of the errors with which he is ne of which is that a Christian's is a sour life, devoid of

Thomas, Hamilton, Ont., enforced the necessity of seek- uth early, before they are rooted in sin, and also our ach religion by precept and example.

eed, Brooklyn, believed that when God has something stian heart to do, God himself tells of the time and when and God never sends a man until a place has been pre- him.

D. Taylor, Detroit, thought it well to take a leaf from of our own experience, and be guided by it.

ne Miller, by request, sang the "Old, Old Story," after e Rev. Jas. F. Campbell, of Halifax, N. S., offered

special prayer for four young men, who had been impressed with and convicted of their sins at the open-air meeting in front of the Bates' House, this evening.

P. B. Simons, Philadelphia, the next speaker, thought the first requisite a heart fully consecrated to the Master, and when we meet the unconverted man we must feel as though his soul were worth more than all the world besides.

O. B. Douglass, Brattleboro, Vt., believed in acting according to our own experiences.

Rev. P. W. Emens, Syracuse, N. Y., believed strongly in personal effort; in going to those we knew were without Christ, and laboring with them.

T. C. Crocker, Waverley, R. I., contended that the best way was to take the unconverted by the hand, lead them to Jesus, and introduce them to Him.

T. M. Herriott, Zanesville, O., said that before we endeavor to convert others, it is necessary to be converted ourselves, then taking Mr. Thane Miller's advice—"Go for them!"

The solo, duet and chorus, "Where do you journey, my brother?" was then sung by Miss Chester and H. Thane Miller.

After Lang Sheaf, Cincinnati, had related a few impressive incidents, Geo. H. Stuart, Philadelphia, led in prayer, that great good would attend the remaining meetings of the Convention.

L. P. Rowland, Jr., of Boston, made the closing address, in which he stated,

That in the United States and British Provinces, represented here, there were estimated to be eight millions of young men, and we should see terrible earnestness in every member of the Young Men's Christian Associations to find those out of Christ, and bring them in by persistent, direct and personal effort, singling out some particular young man and following him up until he was brought to Christ. Follow these hearts up with these hands and God will bless the effort. At the close of your meetings single out somebody, take him by the hand, and if you find out that he is a Christian, it will give him an idea of what his duty is in this great work.

The hymn,

"Jesus paid it all,"

was sung, the Rev. Dr. Harper, of Indianapolis, pronounced the Benediction, and the Convention adjourned.

FOURTH DAY—MORNING SESSION.

INDIANAPOLIS, *June 26th, 1870.*

Convention was called to order by President Maclean at 10 o'clock. The opening devotional exercises were conducted by B. Barnitz, of Wheeling, W. Va.

Reading and approval of the minutes, communications received from Springfield, Mass., and from Lancaster, Pa. Vicks, of Brooklyn, from the Committee on Resolutions, their final report.

Resolution relating to regulating discussion in the Convention, that it be taken into consideration. This recommendation was adopted by the

Convention. Resolution relative to the observance of the Sabbath, the Committee recommended the following substitute:

That this Convention views with great concern the persistent efforts to suppress and abolish the civil laws enforcing the observance of the Sabbath, and earnestly press upon the young men of this Continent the importance and necessity of constant vigilance to maintain the sanctity of a day sacred to all the dearest associations of our Christian homes, and ordained by the command of Almighty God.

This substitute was adopted.

The Committee's recommendation that the following Resolution be adopted,

That one of the most important objects of Young Men's Christian Associations is the encouragement, by counsel and advice, in aiding and assisting the young men, and pecuniarily, if possible, all worthy and competent young men to enter the gospel ministry.

This Resolution associated with the Resolution as to how many members of the ministry, was referred to the Executive Committee.

In the Manual of Associations, this Resolution was also referred to the Executive Committee, and is as follows:

That the Executive Committee prepare for adoption by the next Association *Manual of Associations*, which shall embrace the object and proper sphere of action of Y. M. C. Associations.

Resolution to the churches of Christ in the work of the Master, and, as a part of the plan of organization suitable for individual Associations. Whatever, in the judgment of such committee, may be desirable for the information of the public, and as a guide to Associations in their nature, mission, and work of our organizations.

Resolutions on Basis of Representation and on changing time of Convention, the Committee deemed it inexpedient to take action at this time, and recommended their reference to the Executive Committee, and that they be made the subject of consideration at the next Association. Agreed to.

On motion to Opening Association Rooms on the Sabbath, the Committee recommended that the Convention taking any action on this subject, believing that the decision of which rests with each Association individually, and the necessity of which they alone should determine. Agreed to.

8. As to separate room for sale of papers, etc., to be provided distinct from that in which the Convention is held; the Committee reported that, however desirable, the Resolution was not recommended for adoption, it being a matter for the consideration of the Committee of Arrangements of the Association, inviting the Convention, and involving the expenditure of their funds, must be left to their discretion. Agreed to.

9. Of the two Resolutions presented relative to the Evangelical Alliance, one had been withdrawn by the proposer; the other one, offered by Mr. Thiessell of Philadelphia, the Committee deemed inadmissible, inasmuch as such Delegates would not be received or recognized by the Alliance. Agreed to.

10. On the resolution respecting Women's Associations, action was deemed unnecessary, the subject being covered by a Resolution adopted at the Portland Convention. Agreed to.

The report was then accepted and adopted as a whole, and the Committee discharged.

On motion of Geo. H. Stuart, Philadelphia, the Committee on Devotional Meetings was instructed to reply to General O. Howard's telegram.

A motion was made to reconsider the action on the resolutions for the organization of Associations in Colleges, and opening Association rooms on the Sabbath day. Both were lost.

The next regular business was the consideration of the Report of the Committee on the Report of the Executive Committee, submitted by the Chairman, M. S. Crosby, of Grand Rapids, Mich.

The first three resolutions were adopted unanimously. They read:

Resolved, That the certificate of life membership, submitted in the Report of the Executive Committee, be and the same hereby is approved and adopted, and that they cause the same to be lithographed or engraved, and that copies be sold to the Associations at such prices as will secure the Committee against loss.

Resolved, That T. James Claxton, Esq., of Montreal; J. O. Wood, Esq., of Edgewater, New-York; Hon. J. N. Harris, of New London, Connecticut; Augustus Abbott, Esq., of New-York City; and John Wanamaker, of Philadelphia, and they hereby are appointed Delegates from the Young Men's Christian Associations of America to the General Conference of Young Men's Christian Associations, to be held at Amsterdam, on the 25th day of August next.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be and they are hereby authorized to appoint additional Delegates to the General Conference to the number twenty-five, provided such persons at present represent the active members of our Associations.

The fourth resolution was then read and adopted, after slight discussion.

That the Executive Committee, in the name of this Convention and Associations of America, transmit to the General Conference, to be held in 1851, a letter of fraternal greeting, and that they request the Conference in the recommendation that the second Sabbath in November be observed as a day of prayer for the blessing of God upon the Young Men's Christian Associations throughout the world; and that they suggest that such recommendation be signed by the representatives of the Convention and of this Convention.

This resolution was also adopted.

That the Convention recommends to all the Associations of America that the second Sabbath in November next be observed by them as a Day of prayer for the blessing of Almighty God upon the work of these societies throughout the world, and the Executive Committee is hereby instructed to issue a circular conveying this recommendation to all kindred Associations and to those with which they are in correspondence.

A resolution:

That as a part of the general work of these Associations, it is the duty of the entire membership to do all in their power to increase the circulation of the *Monthly*, by adding to its list of subscribers, and that they should continue until it embraces a number corresponding to that of the membership of the Associations, and that they should not be diverted from this work by offers of temporary advantage from private enterprises.

A resolution, offered by Mr. Coolidge, Massachusetts, was adopted, expunging the words relating to other publications.

Mr. W. H. Insign, of Chicago, moved further to amend, by striking out the word "duty" from the resolution. He remarked that he did not consider it the duty of Associations to support the *Monthly*. He said that as good as other papers, the Associations would like it, and that they would subscribe for others.

Mr. J. W. Brainerd, of New-York, spoke at length in advocacy of the resolution as reported. He said among other things, in substance:

The *Monthly*, representing the Associations, and adapted to meet the needs of the young men of the Continent, had been a darling idea with all leading men from the time of the first Convention at Buffalo. In the hope that that idea the Albany Convention had ordered the Executive Committee to issue a *Quarterly*. The Montreal Convention repeated that order by a unanimous vote. The Detroit Convention did the same thing. And the Convention by an unanimous vote ordered that the periodical be changed to a *Monthly*, and its publication continued. The Executive Committee sought to carry out this and all other commands of the Convention. Some members of that Committee and some forty Corresponding Members, at great personal sacrifice, were seeking to obey the commands of the

Convention, and to develop in practice the policy adopted in them. He desired to know if the duty was all on their side; if the brethren felt that it was right to impose these obligations upon their representatives, and then render service in aid of their fulfilment? Did they propose to vote the paper into existence and then leave it to sink or swim without a single effort in its behalf? It seemed to him clearly the duty of the Convention and the Associations to stand by their own action and do all in their power to increase the circulation of the paper. It was a necessity.

The young men of the Continent need a paper. This field is now unoccupied. The Christian young men represented here should see that a paper is provided to meet this lack, which shall be elevating in all its teachings.

The Associations need the paper; our members need information. Associations are disbanded every year because men do not know how to carry on their work. Many Associations are now languishing which would otherwise be strong if this paper was in the hands of the members. We all need the encouragement which comes from a knowledge of the successes achieved by prosperous Associations. Let these advantages be obtained through this paper, the property of the Christian Associations of the Continent.

Christian people not in the Associations need such a paper. There are many misunderstandings to be corrected; misrepresentations to be met; hundreds and thousands are seeking information in regard to the Associations and the work they have already performed. Persons directly connected with the Associations, knowing their history, acquainted with those active in them, should speak in regard to the matter here indicated; but they cannot do it effectively unless the entire membership recognize and perform the duty to which the resolution refers.

If this duty is heartily performed the paper will not only accomplish the desired results, so much to be desired, but it will also become a source of revenue to the Associations, adequate to the support of the three agents named, as necessary in the report of the Executive Committee, one for the West, one for the South, one for Canada and the East. In this way the Associations, without any difficulty or any real tax, can provide the money for carrying on our general work. If the *Monthly* is properly supported there will be very little need for taking the subscriptions which now form, not the pleasantest feature of our annual gatherings.

The success of the paper for the past six months furnishes ample proof of the soundness of the claim now made. The best illustration and the best proof is found in the history of the "Christian at Work." It is said, that paper in the hands of the private corporation which has now absorbed it, is worth a very handsome sum of money. Its circulation is reported at 70,000 copies monthly, which includes a paying subscription of more than 50,000. This gives it very great value as an advertising medium. It is well known that all this was accomplished mainly by the efforts of the members of the Christian Associations throughout the Continent, and who undoubtedly supposed in what they did, that they were creating a property which was ever to be held in trust, with all its increase, for the prosecution of Christian work.

Now, is it too much to ask the Associations to do for the *Monthly*, which is their own child, represents their views, is their property, what they have done for an outside enterprise?

Wilkinson, of Washington, suggested that the Committee be instructed to leave love stories out of the *Monthly*.

Stuart replied that the Committee had no desire to omit love stories. They preferred to fill the *Monthly* with news and associations; but what could be done if those whose official duty is to forward news, received offers of compensation from others, for the very reports which it was their duty to forward to the Committee.

Stuart, of Philadelphia, said,

Our aim is that we should have only one paper; give our mutual support to make it a success, and let it stand out before the world as the representative of the Young Men's Christian Associations of America.

James F. Campbell, of Halifax, N. S., suggested that the Committee be asked to remove the love stories.

Moody, of Chicago, said,

I am opposed to the establishment of the paper, and had come down here to work against its continuance. But he had been converted entirely. He wrote to the Executive Committee that he would go back and work all over the world to support the paper and spread it everywhere. Some such common sense would bind us all together; and if the Delegates, when they meet, would work for this enterprise, they will be more united and love each other more when they meet at the next Convention.

By almost unanimous vote, the amendment was lost, and the original resolution as amended, was adopted.

The next resolution was read and adopted, to wit:

That this Convention approves and adopts the report of the Executive Committee in regard to the *Association Monthly* and their circular with reference thereto, and the Executive Committee is hereby instructed to continue their work on.

Following resolution, an animated discussion ensued:

That the Executive Committee be, and they are hereby, authorized to employ a traveling agent for the prosecution of Association work and the organization of Associations in the Southern States, for such a period as may be deemed useful, after full correspondence with representatives of Associations.

An amendment thereto, offered by the Rev. J. W. Hamilton, of Lowell, Mass., was lost, and the original resolution adopted.

Following resolutions were also adopted:

That the Executive Committee be, and are hereby authorized to employ the services of Mr. Robert Weidensall, as the Western Agent of the

Associations for the coming year; with leave to employ him in such States the West, including those on the Pacific Coast, as may seem most desirable, after communication with the Corresponding Members, and if deemed best, for a portion of the year in efforts to establish Associations among German young men.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be, and they hereby are authorized out of the proceeds from the copyright of the Hymn-Book, ("Songs of Devotion,") the profits of the *Monthly*, or from donations received by them, and not otherwise appropriated, to employ a suitable person to visit the Associations of the British Provinces, the Eastern, Middle, and Central Western States, or engage therein in organizing new Associations, such work to be undertaken in harmony with the views of the Corresponding Members respectively.

Resolved, That in calling the State Conventions, the Corresponding Members of the Executive Committee be, and hereby are requested to communicate with each other, and with the Executive Committee, in regard to the times of holding the same, to the end that those held in adjoining States may be so convenient as to facilitate the plan of the members of the Executive Committee, to be represented at all such Conventions.

Resolved, That we deeply feel the necessity of further urging upon the Corresponding Members of the different States, Districts and Provinces, the great importance of State Conventions.

Resolved, That in the Hymn and Tune Book ("Songs of Devotion") prepared at the suggestion of our last Convention, at Portland, by W. H. Doan of Cincinnati, Ohio, and published by Messrs. Bigelow & Main, of New-York City, we find a work not only admirably adapted for use in our Young Men's Christian Conventions and Associations, but eminently fitted for devotional exercises and social meetings, and we recommend and urge its adoption for general use.

Resolved, That careful consideration be given to the report of the Lecture Bureau, and that action be taken to, if possible, increase the efficiency and usefulness of the work of the Bureau in the future.

Action on the last resolution was deferred for the report of the Special Committee on the Lecture Bureau.

The remaining resolutions were adopted, to wit:

Resolved, That the form for letters of introduction and acknowledgment recommended in the Report of the Executive Committee be, and the same hereby adopted and recommended to the Association, and the Committee hereby instructed to cause the same to be printed and distributed among the Associations, and that they prepare a corresponding form for the introduction of young men not members of the Association.

Resolved, That we recommend the taking of subscriptions for the wants of the Executive Committee as suggested; that there be a call by States of all the Associations, and that the delegates be prepared to respond with the amount their Associations will subscribe; that at the same time they specify how large a number of copies of the *Association Monthly* they desire, and of the Report of the Proceedings of this Convention; also that a call be made by the Executive Committee for subscriptions from all Associations not represented.

That the Executive Committee publish the proceedings of this including the Report, provided the subscriptions therefor be sufficient cost of publication, and that it be issued so soon as expedient.

accounts of the Treasurer of the Executive Committee be examined and audited by the Committee, it was

That the same be approved as so audited, and printed with the Proceedings of the Convention, and that the Executive Committee incorporate in the said Report such sums as are now due.

That the Executive Committee be instructed to call a meeting of National Convention for 1871, and that the question of bi-ennial sessions of representation be considered at that time.

Report was then accepted and adopted as a whole.

President Bartram in the Chair.

Following named Brethren were duly elected Corresponding Members for the ensuing year :

J. R. Dougall, Montreal ; Ontario, William Anderson, Nova Scotia, James Farquhar, Halifax ; New Brunswick, Lawson, St. Johns ; Prince Edward's Island, William Charlotte Town ; Maine, Henry H. Burgess, Portland ; Hampshire, E. O. Blunt, Nashua ; Vermont, O. B. Douglass, ; Massachusetts, L. P. Rowland, Jr., Boston ; Rhode Edwin R. Holden, Providence ; Connecticut, Newton New London ; New-York, John I. Platt, Poughkeepsie ; ecy, W. J. Carleton, Elizabeth ; Pennsylvania, Thomas Pittsburg ; Maryland, D. W. Glass, Baltimore ; District bia, George A. Hall, Washington ; Western Virginia, . Gibbens, Parkersburg ; South Carolina, V. C. Dibble, n ; Kentucky, John L. Wheat, Louisville ; Ohio, H. P. Cincinnati ; Indiana, John B. Brandt, Indianapolis ; Illi- Wilson, Springfield ; Missouri, Thomas Marshall, St. Michigan, Silas Farmer, Detroit ; Wisconsin, H. J. Madison ; Nebraska, W. R. Bentley, Omaha ; Iowa, George n, Dubuque ; California, R. J. Trumbull, San Francisco ; t, W. O. Hiskey, Minneapolis ; Kansas, William Dill, orth ; R. J. Trumbull, San Francisco, California ; R. G. Brookhaven, Mississippi ; J. C. Slocum, Goldsboro, North Mr. Carter, Bristol, Tennessee ; A. L. Brown, New Louisiana ; C. H. Dimmick, Richmond, Virginia ;

Charles H. Olmstead, Savannah, Georgia ; Joseph Hardee, Selma, Alabama ; M. Page, Jacksonville, Florida.

Moses W. Pond, of Boston, from the Special Committee on the Lecture Bureau Report, submitted the following as their Report:

Whereas the establishment of the Lecture Bureau originated in the demand for such an organization by many of our Associations, especially at the West and,

Whereas the largely increasing employment of the facilities offered by the Lecture Bureau indicate no diminution, but rather an increase in such demand,

Your Committee recommend that the Lecture Bureau be continued on its original basis, the Bureau being allowed however to avail itself of any application from other organizations, provided they do not interfere with our own Associations.

We further recommend that a vigorous effort be hereafter made to furnish cheap lectures for the education of the many, by obtaining the names of the various scientific and literary lecturers who will give courses for a moderate compensation—said lectures be either free or at moderate and nominal fee, and

Also, that the Bureau be continued on its present management for the ensuing year.

The adoption of this report was moved.

E. Wilson, of Springfield, Ill., moved as an amendment, to lay the whole matter on the table. The amendment was lost. Mr. Wilson expressed dissatisfaction with the Bureau, and Mr. Alfred Wicks defended the management.

Charles Mumford, of Brooklyn, Secretary of the Bureau, was given fifteen minutes to make a statement. D. L. Moody, of Chicago, replied, advising the discontinuance of the Bureau. Further discussion was ended by a vote being taken, resulting in the adoption of the Report of the Special Committee.

REPORT OF CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE.

The Committee on Credentials report as far as received by them, the number of Delegates in attendance: Executive Committee, 4; Corresponding Members of Executive Committee, 10; Delegates, 401; Corresponding Members of Convention, 57—Total, 472.

The following persons have reported as delegates:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

CEPHAS BRAINERD, New-York.
ROBERT R. MCBURNEY, New-York.

BENJAMIN C. WETMORE, New-York.
EDGAR A. HUTCHINS, New-York.

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

L. P. ROWLAND, Jr., Boston, Mass.
HENRY J. COWLES, Madison, Wis.
WILLIAM J. CARLTON, Elizabeth, N. J.
O. B. DOUGLASS, Brattleboro, Vt.
THOMAS K. CREE, Pittsburg, Pa.

M. H. BARNARD, Indianapolis, Ind.
W. O. HISKEY, Minneapolis, Minn.
WILLIAM DILL, Kansas.
H. P. LLOYD, Cincinnati, O.
E. R. HOLDEN, Rhode Island.

BRITISH PROVINCES.

SCOTIA.

Glascow.
 AN.
 REST.
 MPRELL.
Adelphi.
 CHARD.

ONTARIO.

Toronto.
 GEORGE HAGUE,
 H. L. THOMPSON,
 JOHN ADAMS,
 CHARLES S. FINCH,
 GEORGE R. MORSE,
 THOMAS J. WILKIE.

Hamilton.

A. J. MCKENZIE,
 SHERIFF THOMAS,
 GEORGE A. YOUNG,
 W. E. M. JAMES.

QUEBEC.

Montreal.

Rev. G. DOUGLAS, LL.D.,
 ALFRED SANDHAM.

UNITED STATES.

MAINE.

Portland.
 CHASE.
 FULLER.
Bath.
 BROWN.
Bangor.
 Y.
 ELER.
Watson.
 N.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Manchester.
 G. CLARK,
 WELL,
 MPLE,
 FOSTER.

VERMONT.

Montpelier.
 TUXBURY.
Wilmington.
 FIS.
Rattleboro.
 JOSEFORD.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Boston.
 FOND,
 AND, JR.,
 ARGENT.
Worcester.
 AND.
River.
 ARGENT,
 M. HAWES.
Worcester.
 RICHARDSON.
Worcester.
 ARDSON.
Worcester.
 COY.
 EFIELD

Worcester.

H. M. WHEELER,
 EDMUND N. BARTON
 AARON F. GREEN.

Middlebury.

JOSEPH T. WOOD.

Lowell.

GEO. E. LOVEJOY,
 PHILETUS BURNHAM.

Lynn.

E. A. LIBBY.

Somerville.

H. M. MOORE,
 Rev. J. W. HAMILTON,
 C. H. BERSWELL.

Spencer.

WILLIAM A. NOTTAGE.

Stonham.

AZRA E. DELANO.

Charlestown.

CHAS. E. LYON.

Leicester.

Rev. A. H. COOLIDGE.

CONNECTICUT.

Meriden.

Rev. JOHN E. DURAND.

Goshen.

Rev. WILLIAM BROWN.

Bridgeport.

DAENEY CARR,
 HENRY S. STERLING,
 Rev. W. W. BOWDITCH.

New Haven.

Rev. D. W. LATHROP.

Norwalk.

LUCIUS H. BIGELOW.

Placerville.

E. W. TWITCHELL,
 W. R. WALKLY,
 L. P. NORTON.

New London.

H. C. WEAVER.

Waterbury.

J. F. RESCO.

Milford.

ELLIOTT B. FLATT,
 GEO. E. BALDWIN.

Putnam.

HARRISON JOHNSON.

RHODE ISLAND.

Providence.

AARON B. MCCRILLIS.

Pawtucket.

HORACE BEACH, Jr.,
 Rev. C. H. SPAULDING,
 THOS. P. BARNFIELD.

Westerly.

Rev. G. E. TOMLINSON,
 THOS. C. CROCKER.

NEW-YORK.

Brooklyn.

Rev. WM. M. MARTIN,
 WILLIAM EDSALL,
 A. M. WYLIE,
 ALFRED WICKS,
 FRANCIS S. DRISCOLL,
 PHILO W. SCOFIELD,
 E. M. BOYNTON,
 CHAS. MUMFORD,
 G. M. POWELL.

New Utrecht Branch.

JAMES S. WRIGHT.

Fulton.

P. L. SALMON.

Eastern District.

JOHN B. THOMAS,
 WM. L. QUINNELL,
 E. R. THOMAS,
 H. GEO. WILSON.

East Brooklyn.

GEO. W. WILSON,
 MARVIN ROBBINS.

Newbury.

JOHN BALDWIN.

Utica.

HENRY CHATFIELD.

Auburn.

GEO. W. LEONARD,
 BYRON C. SMITH.

Schenectady.

J. J. MARLETTE.

Amsterdam.

Rev. W. J. HEATH,
 J. R. KRECHTING,
 THOS. MURPHY,
 EDW. S. DREDT.

Cornell University.

A. B. C. DICKINSON.

Buffalo.

ARTHUR B. WILKES.

Troy.

HENRY A. STARKS.

North Shore, Staten Island.
JOHN H. EADIE,
S. JUDSON RAYNOR.

Syracuse.

Rev. P. W. EMENS.

New-York City.

JAMES A. BENNETT,
FRED'K A. BOOTH,
ANSELM SHAFF,
GEO. W. ARNOLD,
R. L. PURDY,
JOHN C. HAVEMEYER,
HENRY W. ELLIOTT,
G. L. MORSE,
RICH'D C. MORSE,
JAMES FAITHFUL,
Rev. W. N. McVICKER.

NEW JERSEY.*Jersey City.*

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Newark.

Hon. CHAS. C. LATHROP,
JONATHAN DICKINSON,
J. M. WARD, M.D.,
THOS. M. COX,
GEO. W. DOUGLASS.

Montclair.

J. H. WHEELER,
J. W. HENING,

Trenton.

H. V. B. JACOBUS,
JAMES MOSES,
M. W. JOHNSON.

Elizabeth.

A. W. HALSEY,
GEO. E. RISLER.

New Brunswick.

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Orange.

C. J. PRESCOTT.

PENNSYLVANIA.*Bethlehem.*

WM. H. OERTER.

Tidioute.

JOHN ANDREWS.

Easton.

A. V. D. HENRYMAN.

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P. J. TRUSHEL,
Rev. ROBT. MOTT.

York.

D. E. SMALL,
C. G. WELCH,
S. B. JENSLEH,
Rev. WM. H. RICE.

Reading.

G. A. RICHARDSON.

Shrewsbury.

HENRY LATTIMER.

Chester.

GEO. D. STROUD.

Corry.

H. T. NASH.

Oandor.

W. J. SMITH.

Slippery Rock.

Rev. ROBT. McMILLAN.

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CHAS. C. SHIRK,
FRANK J. FRENCH,
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Petroleum Center.

Rev. C. M. HUNT,
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F. R. BRUNOT,
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J. H. W. STUCKENBURG,
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A. W. BELL.

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W. R. JENNINGS,
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Central Baltimore.

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W. A. MAHONEY,
S. M. HOTCHKISS.

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E. R. SULLIVAN,
W. M. HERRIOTT,
H. G. O. CARY,
Rev. WM. M. BOHER.

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Portsmouth.

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WM. JONES,
WM. H. BONSALE,
GEO. H. BELL.

Shelby.

Rev. J. F. SHEAVER.

Ashland.

JOSEPH E. STUBBS,
S. W. BEER.

Mount Vernon.

Rev. J. W. EDSEB,
D. W. CHASE.

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E. S. YOUNG,
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ANDY WOOTON,
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C. C. BRINKLEY,
G. H. KNOLLENBERG,
F. J. BAILEY.

Franklin.

Rev. A. B. MOREY,
W. P. TODD,
Prof. J. E. WALTER.

Greencastle.

J. D. HUTCHINGS,
T. H. STEMSON,
Rev. A. A. BROWN,
J. E. ROBERTS.

Evansville.

J. P. E. KUMLER,
J. S. INGRAHAM.

Knightstown.

T. P. WAGONER.

Indianapolis.

JOHN DIXON,
JOHN W. RAY,
T. H. K. ENOS,
E. S. FIELD,
JAS. McDOWELL,
W. C. SMOCK,
D. H. WILES,
JOHN H. OHR,
B. F. WITT.

Jeffersonville.

Dr. F. A. SEYMOUR,
J. FERRIER.

Terre Haute.

C. C. OAKLEY,
J. E. SAXTON,
E. M. WALMSLEY.

Lafayette.

RALPH D. MORE,
THOS. G. GREEVE,
E. W. MAYO,
J. Q. A. PERRIN,
CHAS. Q. EGHART,
LEWIS FOLLEY,
L. C. SLOCUM,
W. L. B. ELLIS.

Goshen.

J. P. HAWKS,
W. B. JACOBS.

Aurora.

CHAS. C. STEVENS,
Rev. CHAS. TINSLEY.

Cambridge City.

J. M. COVNER.

Vincennes.

Rev. JOSEPH VANCE,
Rev. GEO. PARROTT.

MICHIGAN.*East Saginaw.*

Rev. M. L. MOREHOUSE.

Grand Rapids.

C. G. SWENSBERG,
M. S. CUSBY.

Ann Arbor.

C. E. CONLEY,
W. B. MILLERD,
A. K. SPENCE,
C. J. WILLETTTS.

Monroe.

Prof. E. J. BOYD.

Jackson.

L. T. OSBORNE.

Kalamazoo.

Rev. O. S. DEANE.

Detroit.

E. L. ESSELTINE,
WALTER BUHL,
F. D. TAYLOR,
JOHN W. AMPHLETT.

ILLINOIS.*Springfield.*

ED. A. WILSON,
GEO. W. INGALLS.

Aurora.

S. D. CROSBY,
Rev. T. N. HASKELL,
D. J. PIKE,
T. H. HASELTINE.

St. Charles.

HIRAM RALPH.

Peoria.

WILLIAM REYNOLDS.

Jacksonville.

L. B. GLOVER,
W. H. DEMOTT.

Rock Island.

E. W. SPENCER.

Chicago.

D. L. MOODY,
B. F. JACOBS,
W. W. VANARSDALE,
Maj. D. W. WHITTLE,
J. W. MIDGLEY,
F. G. ENSIGN,
G. W. SHARP,
Prof. P. G. GILLETTE,
Rev. GLEN WOOD,
K. A. BURNELL,
Rev. T. M. EDDY, D.D.,
ALBERT MCCALLA,
L. W. HOLMES.

Shawneetown.

J. W. REDDEN,
J. R. TURNER,
M. HUNTER.

WISCONSIN.*Janesville.*

RUSSEL CHENEY,
JAS. SUTHERLAND.

Whitewater.

C. M. BLACKMAN.

IOWA.*Des Moines.*

F. J. CRESSEY.

Dubuque.
J. OTIS STILLMAN.

MINNESOTA.

Minneapolis.
D. C. BELL.

Rochester.
J. D. BLAKE.

Mankato.
A. D. CONDIT.

Duluth.
Rev. M. GALLAGHER.

MISSOURI.

St. Louis.
J. C. BERTRAM,
A. S. TEASDALE,
Rev. THOS. MARSHALL,
SHEPARD WELLS,
SAMUEL CUPPLES.

Kansas City.
Rev. ROBT. IRWIN,
F. M. FERGUSON,
D. A. WILLIAMS.

NEBRASKA.

Omaha.
ROBT. WEIDENSALL.

CALIFORNIA.

San Francisco.
AMI WHITNEY.
San Jose.
A. E. POMEROY.

We report much delay on the part of Delegates in handing in their credentials, and many have entirely failed to report their credentials to this Committee and, consequently, will fail to be reported in the list of Members of this Convention. Your Committee would further report the following Resolution :

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be requested to prepare two complete lists of all the Associations in the United States and British Provinces, arranged in their order, with the Associations in such States and Provinces alphabetically arranged, and blanks properly prepared for the Corresponding Members of the Executive Committee from each State and Province; and for the Delegates and Corresponding or Honorary Members from each Association, for the use of the Credential Committee of the next Convention, and that they report at the opening of the next Convention, some method to facilitate the work of the Credential Committee in procuring complete lists of the members of the Convention, that they may be reported at an early stage of the session.

J. D. BLAKE,
Chairman of Committee on Credentials.

The Report was accepted and adopted, and the Committee discharged.

The Convention then adjourned, after prayer by the Rev. Robt. McMillan, of Slippery Rock, Pa.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Convention came to order at 2:30 P. M., President Maclean, in the Chair.

The Rev. C. H. Spaulding, of Pawtucket, R. I., conducted the opening devotional exercises.

The minutes of the Morning Session were read and approved.

The following letter, addressed to the Convention, was then read :

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION,
165 ALDERSGATE ST., LONDON, ENG. }
June 10th, 1870. }

MY DEAR BROTHERS,—I beg to acknowledge with thanks the circular which announces the Fifteenth Annual Convention of the Young Men's Christian As-

sociations of North America ; and I rejoice in the opportunity of assuring you of the deep interest which your English Brethren take in all your proceedings, and the affectionate sympathy with which they mark the growing efficiency, as well as the ever increasing dimensions of your work.

I am charged by the Committee of the London Association to request that you will be pleased to convey to the delegates who may assemble at Indianapolis, and through them to the Brotherhood at large, the very cordial salutations of the United British Associations.

We pray that your assembly may be attended in larger numbers than heretofore ; that it may receive new and abundant tokens of the Divine Presence and blessing, and that its issues may be a yet wider extension of the mission of the Associations.

Specially my brethren desire me to convey to your Convention their grateful acknowledgments of the favor with which you received the delegation of Mr. Matthew Hodder, to represent them at your last assembly, and their sincere, heartfelt thanks for the brotherly kindness shown to him by the representatives of the Association, in so many places and so many ways, during his stay on the American continent.

His report confirmed all that we had before heard of the love which pervades your fellowship, of the zeal with which the great work of the Association is pursued, and of the practical skill with which that work is adapted to the varying circumstances of life in your greater and smaller cities, and your country towns. We glorify God on your behalf, giving thanks to Him at every remembrance of your faith toward the Lord Jesus Christ, and love to His Saints.

We are not able to send you any delegates this year. If it should happen that the Rev. John Edmond, D.D., a much esteemed clergyman of this city is in your vicinity, we hope he will have arranged to visit you ; in which case he will tell you something of our affairs, and will certainly be a very fit exponent of the feelings of esteem and love with which you are regarded by the people of God in this Old World. He will need no commendation to your regards when you have seen him.

I forbear to offer any comment on the programme of work which lies before you, for apart from a deep sense of my inability to counsel men who work so well and so successfully, I also entertain a conviction that your methods must needs be all your own, and that though they may differ in some respects from ours, ours would certainly not, altogether, be fitted to the conditions of life and work amongst you. Only let us pray that the directly religious aims of the Associations may receive, everywhere, more prominence.

I am, with much respect and regard, my dear brother, yours, sincerely,

WM. EDWIN SHIPTON, *Secretary*,

Y. M. C. Association, London, Eng.

THE PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENTS, TREASURER, CHAIRMAN,
COMMITTEE AND MEMBERS OF THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN
ASSOCIATION, LIVERPOOL, ENGLAND.

To the President and Members of the International Convention of Young Men's Christian Association, Indianapolis, Ind., U. S. A.

BELOVED BRETHREN,—We duly received the circular of your Executive Committee, convening the Fifteenth Annual Conference of the Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces. Immediately

your circulars were received we communicated with all the principal Associations in Great Britain, informing them of the Convention, and asking their earnest prayers for your success.

Brethren, you will have the sincere good wishes and the prayers of all the Associations in the old country. Here, in Liverpool, your opening day, Wednesday, the 23d instant, has been set apart as a day for special prayer to our Heavenly Father that He may abundantly bless your coming together. We do not forget you, and the common cause in your land, at our devotional meetings. We heartily wish you God speed. We are absent from you in body, but present in spirit. We rejoice to hear of your success.

Brethren, on, on with the noble work; prospering, increasing, spreading, making the glorious cause felt in every corner of your vast country, nay more, throughout the length and breadth of the whole earth. Though thousands of miles distant, we are united—united in the one effort. Who can separate us? May God grant to every one present at your meeting increased zeal in and for our Master's service. Failure is not in our dictionary; success is. We trust you will again appoint a day for united prayer throughout the world. If any of the brethren in America should be visiting Europe, we hope they will visit the Liverpool Association. We are always rejoiced to see them; shall only be delighted to give them a hearty welcome.

In conclusion, we again wish you every success and prosperity, both at the Convention and in the work generally. May God bless, guide and direct you in your deliberations, to the lasting benefit of all present, the good of the Associations generally and to His everlasting honor and glory.

Brethren, we greet you with our united Christian love.

I remain, dear Brethren, ever yours in the Lord Jesus,

SAM. NASH, B. A., *Secretary.*

LIVERPOOL, ENGLAND, June 8, 1870.

A communication from Moncton, Canada, was also submitted.

Vice-President Hague in the Chair.

The Convention joined in singing, after which the Hon. S. S. Fisher, of Washington, D. C., led in prayer.

The special order of business was the hearing of an address upon the subject of the Evangelical Alliance, from J. C. Havemeyer, of New-York, who said the Editor of the N. Y. *Observer* had told him that, but for the encouragement and aid extended to the project by the Association of New-York, the proposed meeting of the Evangelical Alliance would hardly have been possible. The Alliance was first formed in London, in 1845, and now has branches all over the world. Its object is to promote efficiency and Christian action by Christian union. The speaker closed by urging the Delegates to do their utmost to render the meeting of the Alliance a success.

Hon. Felix R. Brunot, of Pittsburg, expressed great interest in the Alliance, and desired to offer two resolutions which he wished the Convention to adopt. The rules were suspended, and the resolutions offered.

Resolved, That the approaching conference of the Evangelical Alliance, in the City of New-York, is hereby commended to the prayers of the Y. M. C. Associations of the country, and they are earnestly urged to co-operate in securing the success of the movement.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be and they hereby are instructed to arrange, if possible, for the presentation, at the sessions of the Evangelical Alliance, of a paper on Young Men's Christian Associations.

They were unanimously adopted.

The Committee on the Report of the Executive Committee, offered a resolution urging all Associations that had not yet done so, to forward their reports without delay. The resolution was adopted, and the Committee were discharged.

At this period, a plentiful shower of rain began to descend upon the parched earth, whereupon the Convention rose and sang
 "Praise God from whom all Blessings Flow."

On motion of Geo. H. Stuart, of Philadelphia, special prayers were offered (by the Rev. James F. Campbell, of Halifax, N. S.,) for the President of the United States, in view of the family affliction resting upon him in the death of his nephew; also for the Queen of England, that she might be continued in health and prosperity, and also that the two great nations might live in peace, and go forth to conquer the world for the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Convention next proceeded to select a place in which to hold the next Convention.

Providence, R. I., was the first place named, and its claims were strongly urged by Messrs. McCrillis and Holden, of that city.

Pittsburg, Pa., was even more prominently proposed by Thos. D. Logan, Hon. Felix R. Brunot and Major William Frew, of that city.

The Rev. D. W. Lathrop invited the Convention to New Haven, Conn., and N. J. Clark pressed the advantages of Erie, Pa.

San Francisco, Cal., was then mentioned, amid great applause,

by D. L. Moody, of Chicago, who vigorously contended for the choice of that city. In this view, he was strongly supported by George H. Stuart, of Philadelphia, Ami Whitney, of San Francisco, and K. A. Burnell, of Aurora, Ill.

The next invitation came from Washington, D. C., through the Hon. S. S. Fisher, who stated,

That the Washington Association is one of the most active and numerous in the United States. They own a large building about the size of the one in which the Convention was then meeting. Besides the Delegates could do much good in Washington, especially among the numerous clerks in the departments. The Washington Association wanted the Delegates to come from the different States and point out these young men whom they had known in their homes. Then, if for no other consideration than that of Washington being the Capital, the speaker contended that the Convention ought to meet there at least once. And, lastly, by meeting there "we may expect to strike hands with our Southern brethren. Washington, D. C.—W stands for Welcome, D for Divine Blessing, and C for Come!"

George A. Hall, of Washington, said,

If the Capital were chosen, the brethren of the South would come there, and one such wave as they would there meet would send its blessed influence over the whole country—making no North and no South, but one whole country.

C. E. Chichester, of Charleston, S. C., said,

That at the next Convention they expected to have fifty new Associations represented, if held in Washington. He was strongly impressed that the Associations would re-unite the sections of this country.

The result of the voting was a very large majority in favor of Washington, and, on motion, the vote was made unanimous.

Some discussion having ensued as to changing the time of holding the Convention, the following Resolution was, on motion of L. P. Rowland, Jr., of Boston, adopted:

Resolved, That the time of holding the next Convention of these Associations be referred to the Executive Committee, with full power.

On motion of D. L. Moody, of Chicago, supported by Rev. D. W. Lathrop, of New Haven, Conn., and F. J. Cressy, of Des Moines, Iowa, the Executive Committee were instructed to select certain of the ablest clergymen and laymen in the country to speak each three-quarters of an hour on questions which shall be given to them by the Executive Committee some months before the holding of the Convention, the programme to be printed and distributed in time to allow the gentlemen to prepare themselves.

George H. Stuart, of Philadelphia, read the following message from Rev. John Hall, D.D.:

NEW-YORK, June 25.

To GEORGE H. STUART, Indianapolis:

Thanks for cheering news. Give the young men JOSHUA I., 7, 8 and 9. We will pray for them to-morrow.

(Signed.)

JNO. HALL.

Vice-President Douglass in the Chair.

The Convention then proceeded to the discussion of the last regular topic:

"How to Organize and Keep Alive Y. M. C. Associations in Country Places."

H. M. Moore, Somerville, Mass., in opening the discussion, said,

The subject was one to which many young men are looking with interest. They had heard from large Associations, and now wanted to hear from small Associations. It is the same principle, whether the Association be large or small—summed up in one word—work. You must keep the one idea of work for Christ before you. I will not speak about organizing Associations, for I think that the latter part of the question demands most attention. We have kept the little Association that I represent alive by working in three different ways—by open-air meetings, prayer meetings, and small conventions. When we returned from the Detroit Convention there were just two of us who thought we ought to have open-air meetings. Our Association is small, numbering 70. We talked the matter over, and pledged to undertake the work, even if no one would help us. After the first meeting, we found eleven to help us. We went to a hill-top, and thereon conducted the meetings during the summer. We had often an attendance of from 700 to 1,000. The ministers came forward, one by one, and joined us; and from the meetings on the hill-tops we used to go to the churches. In most instances, where there is not sympathy between the ministers and the Y. M. C. Associations, it is the fault of the Association. If you convince the pastors that you are working for Christ, you will win their sympathy.

We have six churches in our town. They are almost in a circle. We hold a prayer meeting in each church, one night in the week, and every church has been revived. They are live meetings. To do this we have to work. Some of us walk three miles. But, then, we have glorious meetings going home. Christ walks with us in the way, and we have precious seasons with him. At one time our brethren began to get weary; but I believe that no Y. M. C. Association in this land can die if there are three earnest young men in the Association who say it shall not die.

Henry K. Camrach, Frederick City, Md., said,

The one thing that keeps our Association alive is—work. Were we only to sit in our rooms, we never would accomplish anything. We find our Association prayer meetings and open-air meetings to be the life of the Association.

At one of our open meetings a lady said it was the first prayer meeting she had attended for sixteen years in that village, wherein there are several churches. There is a hall in our city wherein, for seventeen years, intoxicating liquors had been sold. It is now occupied as a prayer meeting by our Association. We have been successful only through work.

James S. Wright, New Utrecht, N. Y.,

Had found that the best way is to go all around and work outside of the Association.

Mr. Brainerd, Hamilton, O., said,

I have had some experience in the small Associations. What we want is a man for President who is all alive, and not afraid to do his duty.

Rev. Robert Mott, Warren, Pa., said,

When I came here, I came with the determination to learn how to make our Associations alive and work for Jesus. I have not yet struck an idea, but I had a while ago an idea strike me, and it is this: All the plans of the larger cities are not of any good to us, because we work under peculiar circumstances—except one—and that is, to go out and start Prayer Meetings, keep them up, if only three persons come, and let the best one be the leader.

Dabney Carr, Bridgeport, Conn., said,

One plan we have tried has been successful. We are not exactly a country town, but a large manufacturing city. We hold our meetings at an hour when the streets are full of the working people, and have found the plan very successful. We have found ladies who were willing to co-operate with us. We got cards of invitation to our meetings printed. These the ladies took, entered the drinking saloons and billiard halls, and handed to the frequenters, and we found it built up our meetings greatly. Grand results have followed with us. Men will receive cards from a lady when they will not from a man.

John R. Firman, Birmingham, Pa., spoke of the obstacles.

One is the lack of co-operation on the part of the Pastors representing the towns. Only three Pastors work with our Association. One of the Pastors said the Association lacked life. Then the Pastors ought to go to the Association and infuse fire into the members; and if they are wrong the Pastors ought to go and straighten them out. Our success has been in Cottage Prayer Meetings.

C. J. Prescott, Orange, N. J., said,

We first secure the co-operation of the Pastors of the town and interest all the citizens. In eighteen months we have prospered in all that we have undertaken. We have spent \$2,000 in our small town in current expenses. We got up a series of four lectures that netted us \$800, with which we commenced a Library.

W. H. Blanchard, Windsor, Nova Scotia, said,

I come from the East, from Nova Scotia, from a small country village with a population of 1,000. Our Association has a membership of 80. What are we doing? I came here to learn and catch fire from you, and if I catch any fire, I will return and infuse the spirit into my brethren. We have only 20

active members who will do their duty. Yet we have a history of some interest. We started the Association about four years ago, upon a non-religious basis. We did not have any Prayer Meetings or Bible Classes. We had a Reading-Room and Library, and it died. We started it again, after having sent some of our men to the Convention. They returned filled with fire, as I hope to go from this Convention. We started with a Prayer Meeting, Bible Class and Literary Meeting. We found an outlying country where there were no meetings. There we started eight Weekly Prayer Meetings. Three of the meetings were seven miles distant, four of them were three miles distant, and two were in the immediate neighborhood. These meetings were kept up, and the brother appointed to take charge was held responsible for the meeting. The result was that at one place eight persons made a profession of religion. At another meeting an individual said, "I was drawn to Jesus because I saw these brethren come eight miles through sleet and snow to hold Prayer Meetings. They got nothing for it—they were not paid anything—and only desired to save our souls. Thus I was led to see that there is something in this religion." Another man who never left the town in a state of sobriety, opened his house to us, and as a result, is now always sober.

E. W. Twitchell, Placeville, Conn., said,

I come from a country organization but three years old. We have worked, and feel that we have been repaid for our work. We tried the lecture system three years, but made nothing. We have done as the brother who last spoke described—have gone out from our town and held meetings. We went to the school houses outside our district, and opened prayer meetings in them every Sunday night, in three districts. In one district we had to borrow candles before we could commence the meeting. Now they have regular meetings of their own, carried on independent of us. Yet we like to visit them, because every time we do it does us good.

T. N. Hasseltyn, Aurora, Ill., said,

We must adapt ourselves to the circumstances in which we are placed, and the communities in which we live. Our way of conducting meetings is this: We have tea meetings every week, at different houses, where the brethren meet to talk over the interests of the Association, arrange their business, and appoint their committees. Each Sunday, in ancient style, we go out into the neighboring villages and districts, and hold out door meetings in the warm weather. To overcome the tendency to tardiness, we select those most prompt, and put them in the Chair, and hold them responsible for the success of the meeting.

Oliver H. Foster, Manchester, N. H., said,

We go out and invite the friends to come to our meetings. In two cases we have gone 14 miles to hold meetings. A considerable time after one of these meetings we received a letter from a young lady, dating her conversion from that meeting. We have but eight or ten active members in our Association.

John W. Owens, Birmingham, Pa.,

Thought cottage prayer-meetings the most important work for country Associations. They can and ought to be held in families that do not attend

Church. Go right to these people, and they never refuse, and always go to these meetings direct from your knees.

Rev. Mason Gallagher, Duleith, Minn.,

Represented an Association of twenty members, formed three weeks ago. He contended that the great obstacle in the way of the extension of the church is the coldness of the church. The strong men of the cities ought to go and stir up those in smaller places.

Mr. Bailey, Richmond, Ind., said,

We find the best way is, to keep in mind that we have the conversion of young men in view. Our great work is to make them Christians. In Richmond we have no trouble in getting them to the meetings. We have a few young men who visit the places of iniquity to reach those who have not the love of Christ in their hearts. We had a revival in Richmond last year, which resulted in the conversion of 800 souls. We still keep up the meetings twice a week.

The discussion closed at this point, and L. P. Rowland, Jr., from the Business Committee, reported the Order of Exercises for the evening. The report was accepted and adopted.

The hour of adjournment having arrived, on motion, the time was extended, to allow Charles Mumford, Secretary of the Lecture Bureau to make an explanation. Mr. Mumford said,

I do not wish to ask for the support of the Convention for this Bureau, because, so far as I am individually concerned, I care not whether it be continued or dropped. But, as it is now left, there will be a great deal of trouble during the coming season. It is necessary soon to issue our circulars. Engagements are already made for the next season. The consequence will be, that the applications for appointments will not reach us, and all such Associations will be without lecturers, simply because their applications will not reach us in time. Two ways are open—either for the Convention to pledge a certain amount of money to carry the Bureau through, or sever its connection with the Associations. The Bureau costs money. From \$500 to \$1,000 will be necessary to pay the expenses for the coming season. I have already expended \$500 out of my own pocket in establishing the Bureau.

Rev. Robert McMillan, of Slippy Rock, Pa., moved,

That the Lecture Bureau be discontinued from further connection with the Young Men's Christian Associations.

Mr. McBurney said,

Before final action is taken on the subject, I presume a brief statement is due from me as Chairman of the Committee which organized the Bureau.

At the Detroit Convention a resolution presented by a delegate from a Western Association was adopted, ordering the establishment of a Lecture Bureau for the Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces, and a Committee, consisting of Messrs. Wm. M. Martin, Brooklyn, John I. Platt, Poughkeepsie, and myself were appointed for that purpose.

That Committee received a petition signed by the leading Young Men's Christian Association workers of the West, and by many from the East, urging the establishment of the Bureau. The petition stated that the Young Men's Christian Associations were in great need of a Bureau under their own control, for two reasons:

1st. If a Young Men's *Christian Association* in a town or city in which a Young Men's Literary Association exists in the West, desires a course of lectures, the Christian Association cannot secure lecturers if the Young Men's Association choose to arrange for a course. And,

2d. The Christian Associations are compelled, when the Bureau of the Young Men's Literary Association condescends to arrange a course of lectures for them, to take just such lecturers, be they Infidel or Christian, as may be sent them.

Early in the month following we constituted Rev. Wm. M. Martin, Mr. Alfred Wicks and Mr. Charles Mumford a Lecture Bureau for the Young Men's Christian Associations. These gentlemen, although engaged in lines of business requiring most of their time, accepted the laborious work. There were two conditions clearly stated by your Committee, which the brethren constituting the Bureau fully agreed to, viz.:

1. That no paid agent would be employed, but that the work would be performed gratuitously by the members.

2. That the names of no lecturers should be placed in the circulars issued by the Bureau, who were not of known Evangelical sympathies.

The first condition was broken during the first year. The reason assigned in the Report submitted at Portland was, the very great amount of labor connected with the correspondence with Associations and Lecturers. Of the manner in which the second condition was kept I know not, as I have not seen the circulars issued to the Associations.

Unkind remarks have been made by a brother in this discussion, reflecting on the motives of the brethren constituting this Bureau, which I cannot suffer to pass unnoticed, as I consider them not in keeping with the spirit of our Convention, and without shadow of justification from the facts. The Chairman of the Bureau is Chaplain and Financial Manager of the Brooklyn Association, with grave responsibilities resting upon him. The Treasurer is too well known as a leader in the Association work to require, in presence of Association men, any commendatory words of mine. And the Secretary, Mr. Mumford, I have known for very many years as one of the most devoted and honored members of the Brooklyn Association, and a Christian gentleman. Mr. Mumford relinquished regular business to enter upon this work for the Associations. I believe errors have been committed by the Bureau, but of this I am certain, that they were errors of judgment. Every member of the Bureau is worthy of the lasting thanks of the Associations of this Continent for the faithful and yet thankless services which they have rendered them.

George E. Lovejoy, Lowell, Mass.,

Thought the Bureau ought to be sustained in some way, because some Associations cannot obtain lecturers in any other way.

Edwin Moody Boynton, of Brooklyn, New York,

Hoped to see this Bureau extend its influence for generations to come. Brethren prominent in its organization feel that it is still wanted, and he hoped this ques-

tion would be met in a generous Christian spirit, and all these little differences amicably arranged. Although not authorized by the Detroit Convention, the Bureau had thus far advanced the money necessary to achieve its present attitude of promise. Beginning without revenue it created income. Its returns last year exceeded thirteen hundred dollars, and promises to double this year. Surely a loan of six hundred dollars per year, running expenses, might be advanced without risk, for it would surely be repaid. Two members of the Bureau had worked without pay, and the Secretary had worked for little and found himself, until success had crowned his able and arduous labors. The Bureau is a power in the land. It speaks to hundreds of thousands through its lectures—yea, to millions in their reports by the press. It was the only Evangelical Lecture Bureau in existence, and its imperfections could be remedied if the Convention did not remit supervisory control.

Lectures are an institution; shall they be used for or against us. May their growing power and usefulness be directed on the side of the cause of Christ, and not against it. He then moved, as a substitute, a resolution that \$600 be loaned as a guarantee to pay the running expenses, and that all the receipts above \$3,000 be handed over to the Executive Committee. Mr. B., said the Bureau has proven itself a success. It is paying more than \$600—yea, more than \$1,200—and will pay more than \$2,600 next year.

D. L. Moody, of Chicago,

Was opposed to this Bureau from beginning to end. He had understood that no money was to be asked for it, but now, in the last hours, they do come in and ask for fifteen hundred dollars. They tell us they will pay it back if they make it. The object of the Y. M. C. Association is to work for Christ, but this Bureau does not do much for that purpose. He seconded the motion, and hoped it would be adopted. He would like to have this Bureau die and be buried right here.

Mr. Tyler, Paynesville, Ohio,

Understood that the Secretary was willing to continue this Bureau as his own private enterprise, and he favored that idea.

M. S. Crosby, of Grand Rapids,

Believed this to be one of the most important agencies in the great work. It can be proved that the Bureau is in the direct line of Christian effort. We are assured it will be profitable, and if so we will be reimbursed for what money may be advanced toward its support, and business required time to grow.

The substitute was rejected upon a division—affirmative, 29; negative, 37.

Mr. Hutchings moved as a substitute the following:

Whereas, It is unnecessary to longer continue the Lecture Bureau, as a special agent of the Young Men's Christian Associations beyond the current lecture season; therefore,

Resolved, That after the arrangements already made, it revert to the present Secretary, and that the Convention bespeak for the Bureau under its new management, the patronage of the Young Men's Christian Associations.

Mr. Tyler favored the motion of Mr. McMillan.

A Delegate objected to a mere handful passing upon so important a measure just at the close of the session.

On motion of Mr. Moody, fifteen minutes longer were devoted to the discussion of this question.

After further remarks, by Messrs. Moody, Brainerd, Ray, Mumford and others, the substitute, being the resolution of Mr. Hutchings, was adopted.

It appearing from the report of the Lecture Bureau that there was some indebtedness to the Secretary, Mr. Moody moved that the Convention pay Mr. Mumford \$600 in full of all his claims for disbursements.

On motion of Mr. C. J. Littlefield, this matter was referred to a select Committee of three, their decision to be final.

The President subsequently named the committee, to consist of Messrs. Moody, Littlefield and Crosby.

After prayer by H. Thane Miller, the Convention took a recess until eight o'clock, P. M.

EVENING SESSION.

The Convention came to order at the call of President Maclean, and united in singing

"All hail the power of Jesus' Name."

Hon. S. S. Fisher, of Washington, read a portion of Scripture and the Rev. John C. Smith, of Indianapolis, led in prayer.

The minutes of the afternoon session were read and approved.

Special prayer was then offered by the Rev. M. H. Sargent, of Mass., in behalf of certain young men, who, at the open-air meeting that evening, had requested the prayers of the Convention. One of the young men, it was said, had, since entering the room, given his heart to God.

The special order was the consideration of the topic—

"How can the Associations carry the Gospel to those who do not hear it?"

Professor A. K. Spence, of Michigan University, Ann Arbor, opened the discussion by remarking,

That it was the question of the Christian Church at the present time, and on its solution depends the life or death of our organization. It is also the most difficult of all questions. According to the statement of the question, this Gospel is to be borne by us, individually, not to men who desire to hear it, but to men, perhaps, who will at first scorn the good news. First, and principally, do the work as Christ did it. He laid aside His glory and went about doing good. Like Him we must go and lift up those who are fallen down. We must suit our means to our circumstances, and must never grow discouraged. There cannot be such a thing as failure with God and Christ Jesus on our side. Then we must also be judicious. Injudiciousness often harms our work. We must believe that God sends us as His messengers.

J. H. Emminger, of Mansfield, O., said,

A good way was to take along good singers to draw in the unconcerned. In Mansfield, last winter, the Association tried this plan; got the people interested, then turned the work over to the pastors, who preached to them, and the result was sixty-five conversions.

George E. Lovejoy, Lowell, Mass., told

How, by printing passages of Scripture on cards, and having them prominently placed in store windows, the unconcerned passers-by on the street were attracted by them and led to think of their meaning. Another way was to send cards of invitation to the boarding-houses in Lowell, which read: "Neighborhood Prayer Meeting to night. Come, and invite your friends." By these means we have reached some souls.

Ed. A. Wilson, Springfield, Ill., said,

In order to reach the bankers, business men, and that class who would not come to hear the Gospel, their Association had blotters prepared with texts of Scripture printed on them. These they sent to the stores and to places whose owners would not look into the Bible. He believed this, in the hands of God, one of the best plans to reach these men.

J. F. Davis, of Williamsport, Pa., said,

Their Association had decided to have open-air meetings. To draw the people they engaged a band of music to play. It brought a great many who would not otherwise have come. They had an attendance of from 1,000 to 2,000. They also arranged for the best speakers they could procure. In this way the meetings often became so large that the speakers could not be heard by all, and many were led to the meetings of the Church.

C. J. Littlefield, South Boston, said,

That one way to carry the Gospel is, to carry it in our hearts seven days in the week and twenty-four hours in the day. Every business man meets more

unconverted young men in business than he does in prayer meetings, and most of us have plenty of opportunities to preach the Gospel to them. In their Association they sent young men after young men of the same age, and the young Christians try to lead the others to Christ. Have a religion that shines out. Carry it in your face and in the tones of your voice.

By request, Brother Littlefield then sang the piece entitled,
 "I love to tell the Story."

F. H. Smith, of Washington, D. C., led in prayer for those who had entered the meeting requesting prayer.

The second subject was then taken up—

"How can we make our Meetings so Interesting that Unconverted Young Men will attend them?"

The Rev. S. B. Barnitz, of Wheeling, W. Va., in opening the question said,

It was one not easy to answer. First, he would say, by believing the promise of God, made to every Christian who prays earnestly, in faith believing, the best way to get them in is to pray them in. It is said, "If ye ask in faith, that shall ye receive." Yet too many go trembling to God. The greatest power from God was given in answer to prayer. "Strengthen me, O God, I pray Thee, this once," and having prayed this, Samson placed his arms around the pillars and brought the temple down, crushing the enemies of God and gaining a victory for Israel. Having this faith, we will come to God, not in a cold and informal manner, but believing that God will do what He promises. Then have variety in our meetings. In entering our meetings, I say to a young man, "I am going to read such a passage." I want you to stand up and say, "Let us sing such a hymn." Do it cheerfully. Of all creatures on earth, the Child of God ought to be most cheerful, and especially in His Church. With this variety, and with earnestness and personal effort, we may bring in the unconverted. Yet I know of few brought in except they are prayed in. Earnestness, then, strong faith, and variety in conducting meetings will give us power over those who are without, and we have the promise of "Power from Him who sits upon the Throne."

After singing, the Convention was next addressed by J. C. Havemeyer, of N. Y., who said,

That one way to make prayer meetings interesting is to use Scripture plentifully and correctly. No language carries with it such power as the simple Word of God, correctly and aptly quoted.

J. J. Joyce, Jr., Philadelphia,

Thought the great mistake made very often is, that the prayers and addresses are not of that practical character that they should be. There is a wonderful attraction in the Spirit of God; and where it is, the ungodly will come in and listen to what God is doing.

Lang Sheaf, of Cincinnati,

Thought every Association ought to have an organ for devotional meetings, a competent person to play it, young ladies to lead the singing, and a man of snap, live, active, and in earnest to conduct the meeting. Also, have a Brother at the door to invite young men in, while the brethren within are singing.

Rev. J. F. Sheaver, Shelby, O.,

Believed if men would think more with the heart, and less with the head, it would be an element of success in the prayer meetings. If we exercise good common sense we will be successful.

Henry J. Sterling, Bridgeport, Conn., said,

One way is to talk directly to individuals, and not to generalize—to the youth themselves, and not to the community at large.

Rev. G. E. Tomlinson, Westerly, R. I.,

Illustrated the folly of reading long chapters, singing long hymns, and making long prayers at the opening of a meeting, or selecting chapters, etc., at random. Much depends on the start given. The leader should strike some key-note, and that should be the love of Christ, then all Christian hearts will respond. At one meeting I attended they sang "Nearer my God, to Thee," so drawlingly, that I told them that if they did not go faster I thought that they never would get near to God.

Rev. M. H. Sargent, Boston,

Ardently admired the plan of going to the meeting singing, as the brethren had come from the open air meeting to the Convention. He felt inclined to ask his deacons if they would not sing with him on the way to church, next Sunday night. Each young man ought to be prepared to say something that will attract and interest those who come to the meetings. If we go with this desire in our hearts, the prayer-meeting will be filled up.

L. W. Munhall, Indianapolis,

Would never allow a man to speak or pray longer than two minutes. We should also pray and talk to one subject. Neither is it well to have the meeting in too large a room for a few brethren. They should be close together. Get an unconverted man sandwiched between two persons warm with the love of Christ, and he will get some of the warmth.

L. P. Rowland, Jr., of Boston, Chairman of the Business Committee, reported the list of speakers for the Farewell Meeting, also the following Resolution, which was unanimously adopted by a rising vote:

Resolved, That with overflowing hearts we would make most grateful acknowledgment of our indebtedness to the Indianapolis Association, for their courteous and generous reception and entertainment of the members of this Convention: To the Governor of this Commonwealth, for his most

cordial welcome to this State, and earnest endorsement of our work : To the Mayor of this city, for the encouragement given us by his presence and many attentions : To the Pastors, Trustees and Members of the First Baptist and Third Presbyterian Churches of this city, who have kindly placed their edifices at our service : To the generous friends who have taken us to their homes and ministered to our temporal wants, contributing greatly to our enjoyment : To the railway companies, whose liberality has furnished facilities for our journey, and for our excursion : To the press of Indianapolis, whose columns have been devoted, without stint, to the reports of our discussion : To the Indianapolis *Sentinel*, for its hundreds of papers gratuitously distributed daily to the members of this Convention : To the citizens, whose interest has been manifested unmistakably, not only by attendance at the sessions of the Convention, but also by kind words and acts innumerable, bestowed upon its individual members : To all and each we owe thanks, beyond our power of expression, for what has been done by Indianapolis to contribute to the success of this Convention. God has blessed the efforts thus put forth. May God so continue his blessing, that as we return praying, a shower of divine favor may be meted out to all our Associations, and whether permitted to meet again on earth or not, may we every one be finally and forever gathered on the farther shore.

Thus we part, but not forever,
 Joyful hopes our bosom swell,
 They who love the Saviour never
 Know a long, a last farewell.
 Blissful unions
 Lie beyond this parting vale.

On motion of George H. Stuart, the thanks of the Convention were tendered to John S. Maclean, of Halifax, N. S., for the faithful, courteous, and dignified manner in which he had presided over the deliberations of the Convention. The vote was also given by rising.

After Miss Chester and H. Thane Miller had sang

“ We are Waiting by the River,”

D. L. Moody, of Chicago, proceeded to deliver the closing address :

He believed that the prayer meeting should be the most interesting service that is held by our Associations or churches. A great many meetings are ruined by the leader giving out no subject, but reading the longest chapter he can find, and then making a prayer to correspond, until the people become weary, and only speak afterward to fill up time, or from a sense of duty. Another mistake is, the singing of the same old, old hymns, over and over. We want more Scripture in our prayer meetings. Experience is good, but we want more cheerfulness. There is a good deal of talk in this country that does not amount to anything. We want to avoid prayerless prayers. It is an abomination to the Almighty. In the Chicago Association they have on every chair a Bible and a hymn-book. Do not think a meeting can be successful without a Bible. Give

out the subject a week before, if you are holding regular meetings. Recently, I told one Brother to find out the most precious promises in the Bible. And I told the next one to take another thought; and so the Church read the Bible through in a week. It made one of the best and most precious meetings we ever had. Another obstacle is, want of ventilation. See that the room is well lighted and ventilated, cheerful and pleasant. If you see one with a long face, go and ask him what is the matter. If he says "nothing," tell him that the idea of the son of a king looking sad is ridiculous. We have a bell, and we strike it at the third minute. That bell saved us, and we have the largest prayer meeting on the continent, in the wicked city of Chicago. Get a bell; the result will be they will say what they have to say, in condensed form, and then get out of the way. Go to say something for the Master, and not to make the meeting interesting. Lift up Christ, and then the meeting cannot fail to be interesting, because He is altogether lovely.

- The Convention joined in singing the hymn, commencing,
 "More love to Thee, O Christ—
 More love to Thee."

On motion, the reading of the minutes was dispensed with, reference of them being made to the Executive Committee.

H. Thane Miller then led in the closing prayer, the Convention joining in the Lord's Prayer, the Rev. J. T. Campbell, Halifax, N. S., pronounced the Benediction, and the Convention adjourned.

FAREWELL MEETING.

INDIANAPOLIS, *June 26, 1870.*

The evening meeting was called half an hour earlier than usual—at 7:30 P.M., and considerably before that time the spacious Academy was crowded.

In opening, the hymn

 "All hail the power of Jesus' name"

was sung. The Rev. W. Elgin, of Indianapolis read a portion of Scripture and led in prayer, another hymn was sung, and then President Maclean said,

My Dear Brethren,—This night we close our delightful Convention. Our hearts have throbbed with love to Christ and love to each other as we have sat here discussing what pertains to His kingdom and work on earth. We have been knit together, and we all feel sorrowful now that we are about to part.

We sorrow most of all because we shall probably see each other's faces no more. But we trust that we all may have been blessed. Now let the prayers of this assembly be offered up to God as the speakers come out one after another to address this large meeting, that their lips may drop with fatness and that the Spirit may impress every one to speak from heart to heart, and that great good may be done. I introduce to you Major William Frew, of Pittsburg.

Major Frew said,

The solemn responsibility has been devolved upon me of striking the keynote of this meeting. I therefore desire that this entire audience will join me in one moment of silent prayer that I may be guided from on high. And now let us pray.

After the silent prayer the speaker continued :

I have never felt a solemnity like this ; I have never felt before that my heart was so deeply solemnized as it is now, in view of this very impressive gathering. For the last five days we have been in your beautiful city ; your hearts and homes have been open to us, and now, as we have ceased the business of our Convention, and to-morrow will scatter us to the four winds, perhaps never to come back to your hospitable city, we desire, if possible, to say some words before we go that may be for the good of your souls, and for a blessing to this city, so that when we are gone there may linger the fragrance that cometh down from the throne of God. O, Brethren, this is a solemn occasion. As we separate from you we desire to leave the richest blessing that we can, and wish to call down from heaven God's blessing upon your Churches and all who are yet out of the Kingdom of Jesus Christ. What shall we say more than we have said to commend the religion of Jesus ? What more can we say ? If you have not been convinced that Jesus is the most precious friend in all the universe, let us here, to night, press Jesus upon you, and if you are still careless and unconcerned, we beseech you as we go away, in Christ's name, " be ye reconciled to God." In one of the Cemeteries of the East, in a portion devoted to the burial of the soldier dead of our land, amid some plain graves, marked by plain head-stones, there is one over which stands a beautiful marble monument, marked with the name of the dead, and beneath all is the inscription : " He hath given Himself for me." The history is this : When the war was raging at its height, a citizen was drafted into the army, and being unable to go, sent a substitute. A young man took his place, and gave his life upon the battle field, and the other felt that it was due to him that he should go to the battle field and, from amid the hosts of the slain, bring out the body of his friend, give it Christian burial, and then raise above it a marble monument, and thus displayed the gratitude he had for the man " who gave himself for him." But, my friends, if that soldier deserved the gratitude of that citizen, how infinitely more does Jesus, our dear Saviour, who came down from heaven and gave Himself for you and for me, deserve the gratitude of our hearts ? Eternity shall not be able to tell all the love He deserves from us, and in heaven we shall raise a monument that will last through all eternity. Citizens of Indianapolis, this is the character that we desire you to love and esteem and believe in. There is no other power but the power of Jesus that can save you. We want to see all the young men of Indianapolis that are still careless and unconcerned ; we beg and pray of them by the mercies of Jesus Christ that they be reconciled unto God, and we will go away from the place happy and joyous. If we can only

have the satisfaction of believing that this Convention has done some good to the city of Indianapolis in the salvation of souls, we shall be more than happy. If there is any young man here to-night who is inclined to turn to Christ, let me urge him not to put it off till to-morrow's sun, for that may never rise upon you, but to-night, just now, give your soul to Jesus.

In Philadelphia, in the Academy of Fine Arts, there is a magnificent painting by the American artist, Benjamin West. It is known all over the world as "Christ Rejected." It represents our Saviour when Pilate brings Him out to the multitude and offers Him to be pardoned and released. On one side stand the Pharisees and Scribes and High Priests, with intense hatred depicted on their countenances, and on the other a few of the weak friends and disciples of Our Lord, and behind, the great multitude, incensed by the priests, crying out, "Crucify Him, crucify Him, not this man but Barabbas," and they reject Christ. Oh, the history of those who rejected Jesus! Oh, the long story of misery and punishment, of terrible retribution which rested upon that people, and which will continue to rest upon them until their eyes are opened and they see Jesus as the long promised Messiah. I remember some years ago, as I walked over the *via dolorosa*, I came to the arch of Pilate, where they say Pilate offered Christ to the Jews, and they rejected Him. I felt that there I had come to critical ground, and that I was called upon then to accept Jesus or reject Him, and there I said I am for Jesus, and gave myself to Him. To-night you stand in that very same position. We offer you Christ to-night. Will you receive Him or will you reject Him? You cannot go out of this house to-night without making a decision. You cannot go out of this house to-night without accepting or rejecting Christ. He is offered to you, and you must decide here, on this spot! Think of His love and what He has done for you—how He came into this world to redeem you by His precious blood. We beseech you, by the mercies of Christ, be ye reconciled to God.

The Rev. S. B. Barnitz, of Wheeling, W. Va., said,

What can I say as we go down from this mount of privilege, to make us even more in earnest than ever before. You and I have sometimes walked abroad in the clear, still beauty of night. We have watched the moon in her beauty march across the Heavens. We have seen the thousands of stars that dot the firmament. Yet, were the moon gold, and every star a ruby, there is that within every one of us which is worth ten thousand times more than would be ten thousand such worlds. The soul of man! Jehovah's breath shall live, when every star shall fall and the heavens be rolled together as a scroll, with Jesus or with Satan. Hell moves to draw it to eternal loss. It is your and my privilege to go forth and save men, and lift them up from that which is low and groveling, to that which is grand and immortal. An old legend tells us that a Scottish king once bequeathed his heart to one of the most valiant of his knights, that he might carry it to Palestine, and that it might stimulate him to a Christian crusade. He took the precious treasure with him, and carried it in a golden box upon the pommel of his saddle when he went to battle. And when hard pressed by the Moors, he cast it into the midst of his enemies, and cried, "Forth, heart of Bruce, Douglass will follow thee or die!" He did follow, and was cut to pieces trying to rescue it from beneath the feet of the oppressors. From the Cross our Master has flung his heart; be it ours to follow it. But we follow it

not to die, but to live, and lift others from the dregs of misery, and to place their and our feet upon the Rock of Ages, the same yesterday, to-day and for ever. "By this sign we conquer." Let this be our motto, as we go forth: "God forbid that I should glory, save in the Cross of Jesus Christ, by which the world is crucified to me, and I am crucified to the world."

The Hon. Chauncey Olds, of Ohio, made a brief exhortation to the unconverted to accept God's offers of mercy.

The next speaker, Rev. George Douglass, LL.D., of Montreal, Quebec, said,

Mr. President and Christian Friends,—In rising in response to your call, I remark that you have justly observed, sir, that my co-delegate and myself have come from the far North. We have come from the valley of the lower St. Lawrence, some 1,200 miles from the city in which we are now gathered. In coming, sir, from under the ægis of another authority and power than that which is symbolized by the banner on my left, (Stars and Stripes) we have come with the confidence which brotherhood inspires; we come with confidence, sir, not because we look in the faces of those who are of kindred origin—the Saxon and Teutonic races; not because we speak the same language that, in the circling years, is destined to march triumphant over the earth; not because we sit under the shadow of that great literature which is the heritage of immortal mind to us and shall be the distant ages of the future. We come, sir, thank God, not because we are of the one blood, but of the one faith, the one Baptism of the Holy Ghost, and the one God and Father of all, who, by mystic influences, whose only solution is found in the supernatural power which pertains to our glorious Christianity, binds all Christian hearts together in "that love which is stronger than death, and which many waters cannot quench, neither can the floods drown it."

It is perhaps right that I should say, on behalf of the Delegation which has come from the Dominion of Canada, that we shall retire from your midst, bearing with us memories precious and sacred, that shall live through the circling years, crowded with *immortelles*, deathless and fragrant forever.

We have come into your midst comparatively strangers, and you have taken us to your homes and taken us to your hearts. And more than this—you have signalized our coming into your midst by an act unprecedented, as far as my knowledge extends, in the history of your great Republic, by the election of my honored friend, a British subject, from a British province, by an acclamation vote, to be the presiding officer of this great Christian Convention. Believe me, Christian friends, that this incident, simple as it is, shall distinguish the Fifteenth International Convention that is now meeting in this city of Indianapolis as the inauguration of a higher spirit of cordiality and Brotherhood on this grand American continent; and I would say to the Right Honorable, the Governor of this State and Commonwealth of Indiana, that I venture to say, when the history of the progress of the cordiality of nations is written, it shall be recorded as one of the triumphant events of its history, that our honored brother, who is an alien in your midst, has been taken to your confidence and been placed in the position of honor. I rejoice that this Convention has anticipated in this respect the great Evangelical world's alliance. It has opened the lattice. It has

let fly the holy dove of concord, bearing the olive branch of peace, and already it has carried the intelligence to the land beyond the lakes, and has given joy to uncounted Christian hearts in our dominion; sir, it shall cross the sea and traverse the world, the intelligence that, on this grand American continent, brotherly love, and cordiality and peace, are, hereafter, to be the pledge of our fealty to the Master Divine.

In retiring from this Convention, it is right that we should say that we retire with the profound conviction that, as Christians, we are here in consonance with the higher spirit of the age. It was a maxim of Talleyrand, one of Europe's greatest diplomatists, that "The wisdom of the many is better than the wisdom of the few," and, the enthusiasm of the many can sweep up to an altitude that the enthusiasm of the few can never reach. Now, sir, I have sat in silence during the course of this Convention; I have observed the wisdom of love, and the enthusiasm of warm Christian affection. This Convention has met. It has broken the alabaster box of precious ointment, and on this sweet and precious Sabbath evening, we are about to retire and carry the fragrance all over the land, and, from the flowery lands of Minnesota to the everglades of Florida, and from the pine forests of Canada to beyond the snow-capped peaks of the Sierra Nevadas, the influence that has been generated in this great Convention shall be felt through the circling years; and then, sir, I have observed that in this Convention, there has been the very essence and core of Christian faith. All the conversation has been of Jesus and the Cross. There has been union—but not the iron manacles of Roman Catholicism that crushes the æsthetic soul of man, but the union that I observed in one of your grand Indiana oaks, unbending in its fibre and woven roots and giant trunks, yet free to catch every sunbeam of heaven and flinging its branches, elastic, to every wind that stirs. This is the union of Protestantism, and it has been the union of this grand Convention.

I would not close without interceding for your sympathy and prayers, on behalf of the land from which I come. There is one respect in which my co-delegate and I stand distinct and apart from every representative that has come to this Convention. We stand before you as the representatives of a Protestant minority, confronted by the most vigorous, aye, the most compact, and the most overshadowing type of Roman Catholicism that is known at this hour on the face of the earth. It is but right, in common justice, that I should admit that its priesthood are reputable; that its sisterhood of nuns are untainted by the breath of suspicion; that its paraphernalia is in harmony with the æsthetic and beautiful; that there is none of the degradation of the Spanish Peninsula or the South American Republics in our midst; and yet, sir, I lift up my voice to-night, as I lift up my hand, and declare that Roman Catholicism is an anathema and blasting mildew wherever its fell power is felt. I observe in the records of the Ecumenical Council, that the Canon of Infallibility has passed. I believe in the infallibility of Rome. I believe in the infallibility of her instincts to hold her votaries in ignorance, and emasculate them of all that is uplifting and ennobling in manhood, and if her power were adequate, to hold back the world's tide of onward civilization, putting her heel upon the very neck of freedom and of conscience. And here, before I close, I leave my testimony in the midst of you, Protestant and Christian Americans, and it is this: Christian young men, that hold the keys of the future—that hold the destinies of coming ages—stand by your schools, and stand by the Bible in your schools. (Loud applause, which

caused Mr. Douglass to say: "I am a Scotch Presbyterian born, and you pain me by that.") I say, stand by the Bible, with its Genesis of loveliness, and its Exodus of sorrow, and its Psalms of gladness, and its Evangelists of glad tidings, and, as one who has had to confront Catholicism from my boyhood, I say, hold fast to the Bible as the palladium of your liberties, and the hope of your country for the future.

And now, Mr. President, I would say, Farewell! But lately I heard one of your own nation say, that when Lord Nelson was chasing or hunting the French in the Mediterranean, and the ships appeared in sight, Nelson, filled with enthusiasm, lifted up his hands, and exclaimed: "I thank Thee, Most High God, for this great opportunity!" The sequel was Trafalgar, a resting-place in St. Paul's Cathedral, a cenotaph, and immortality to his name. Christian young men, aye, and I may say Christian young women, too, a grander opportunity opens before us, on this great American Continent. And as the Vermont boy, who had taken up the banner of his country, wounded in the battle of the Wilderness, still holding up the flag, and flinging it to his comrades, said: "Tell them at home that I was faithful unto death!" so, dear brethren, let us go from this Convention, and, if we meet no more on earth, we, I trust, shall finally meet around the Mercy Seat—the blood-bought Mercy Seat—and gather on the banks of the beautiful river, with the shining ones in the skies. And may God grant it!

Miss Chester and H. Thane Miller sang the duet and chorus,

"Whither are you Journeying?"

after which M. S. Crosby, of Grand Rapids, Mich., the next speaker, said,

The particular thought that he wished to impress upon the Assembly was, that the religion of Jesus was not only good to live by, but to die by. He made an interesting allusion to the inscriptions written in blood upon the walls of the dungeon in the tower of London, showing with what spirit Christians can die. Patrick Henry left in his will this important statement: "I have now disposed of all my property to my friends and family. There is one thing more I wish I could leave them, and that is the Christian religion. If I could leave them that, and nothing more, they would be rich indeed. If I should leave them all the world, and not that, they would be poor indeed." The speaker impressed the thought that no one can have a better inheritance than a belief in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Andrew J. Chase, of Portland, Me., spoke in a strain of mingled humor and pathos, paying the highest eulogies to the West, Indiana and Indianapolis. He urged the members to go home with the feeling that the Young Men's Christian Association was a permanent institution, and its work a permanent necessity, in order that the command of the Master to "preach the Gospel to every creature" might be successfully carried out.

Mrs. Halford, of Indianapolis, sang
 "Your Mission,"

after which Alfred Wicks, of Brooklyn, N. Y., said,

It is not in the thunder, it is not in the lightning, it is not in the mighty rushing wind—the voice of God was not there; it was in that still, small voice. We have listened to the thunder of eloquence from this platform, and we listened for the voice of God to our hearts. We heard the silver roll of music as it swept over this assembly, and again we listened for the voice of God. We heard the rush of emotion as it swept to and fro among us, and our hearts throbbed with love to Jesus, and we listened for his voice there; but has it been heard? Dear friends, in a few short hours this scene of beauty, all these lights will have passed away to darkness; but we are going to our homes, and throughout the length and breadth of this Continent will go up the prayers of many hearts for the people of this good city. But we leave you not alone; we leave with you that dear Saviour; and his voice, if you will listen, shall come to your hearts with power such as you have never even known. Oh, how truly we will pray that He will stand at the door of this dear city and knock, and knock for admittance until thousands shall open and welcome Him to their hearts.

Comrades, we are about to part. We have learned to love each other. I have seen almost anger in the excitement of debate, but while the red flush of excitement was still on the cheek, we have seen the tear of sympathy, and it was but the space between that prevented your rushing into each other's arms. I know we love each other more dearly for the very warmth of our discussions. In going home, we will not forget you, dear friends, and if we do, we ask you to pray for us. Comrades, let us not forget the motto that is painted on that pillar, and as we go to our homes and back to our work, let us remember the words of the Apostle, and "Quit you like men." You may be weak and poor; but in the consciousness of your love and dependence upon Him, you stand in your work with the strength of the living God. God bless you! Farewell!

The Rev. Dr. Harper, of Indianapolis, on behalf of the Christian ministers and Christian people of the city, addressed a few parting words to the Delegates. After remarking that the Committee was a most practical illustration of the true Brotherhood of Christ, the learned Doctor said,

I have but one word more to say, and in saying it I am sure that I express the feeling of all the Christian men and women in this city to-night. We thank you dear brethren, for this visit; we thank you that you have come to our city, that you have come into our churches, and that you have come into our homes, and that you have come into our hearts. It has been a blessed meeting to us; it has been a profitable and delightful meeting to us; it shall long be cherished by us in grateful remembrance. Like the sweet glow of twilight which, in Northern climes, rests long on the hill-tops after the sun is set, and like the sweet memory of voices and faces which have gone from us and returned to dust, the memory of these sweet hours shall linger in our hearts, and in our homes, and in our churches long years to come. Like the pebble cast into the

pool, which sends out little waves, circling wider and farther till they break on the shore, the influence of this Convention shall not only circle through this city, but through this land and break on the shores of eternity. We say to you again, with our whole hearts, dear friends, that we thank you for this visit. God bless the Young Men's Christian Associations of these lands, and make every one of them faithful in the cause of our blessed Master. We all have but one life to live, let us live it well, and stand up manfully for Jesus. Some of us are here to-night who love that flag, (pointing to a British flag, suspended over the stage) for whom it is hallowed by a thousand sacred memories, and some of us love that young flag, baptized as it has been with tears and blood.

But there is one banner here that we all love more than either of these; it is the "Banner of the Cross." God grant that when our day of warfare is over, and our armor is laid aside, that all these men who have come here to the Convention, and all the Christian men and women who are here to-night, shall meet again around the throne in Heaven, under the banner of our blessed Saviour, and around the Young Man who suffered and died for our sins on earth, and that every one of us shall hear at last the welcome, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

Mr. E. S. Field, of Indianapolis, spoke briefly on behalf of the local society, giving interesting details of their work.

Col. Jno. W. Ray, President of the Indianapolis Association, then delivered the parting salutation of that Society. In closing he took President Maclean's hand, saying,

And now, my dear Chairman, in behalf of the Association of this place, I again say, "God be with you, and may we all so live, that if we shake hands no more on earth, it may be ours, in the presence of the assembled glorified, to shake hands on the other shore."

The Rev. J. W. Hamilton, of Somerville, Mass., advised the sinking of all sectarian feeling, in the united laboring for the elevation of all classes, irrespective of caste, color, or social standing.

D. L. Moody, of Chicago,

Earnestly enjoined upon the citizens present, their duty to erect for their local Association a fitting building, and closed with a fervent appeal to the unconverted. He believed that were a messenger to win his way from Indianapolis to Heaven and say that a young man here had no one to save him, every angel in Heaven would want to come down to carry him to Heaven. Not an angel in Heaven but would rush down from Heaven, if they could, and come and take our places. Our places they cannot take; if the work is done it must be done by us. Man's Gospel is spelled in two letters, "Do." God's Gospel is the addition of two letters, "Done."

H. Thane Miller, of Cincinnati, delivered the closing speech. After urging the point advanced by Mr. Moody, that the Indianapolis Association should be furnished with a building of their

own, Mr. Miller affectionately exhorted the unconverted to come to Christ, and related a number of incidents that brought tears to the eyes of many in the audience, and closed with saying, "in the name of Jesus, my Master, I ask you to give yourselves to Christ."

It was after ten o'clock when President Maclean rose and delivered the following parting words :

Dear Brethren of the Convention and Christian Friends :—The truest friendship on earth is that which is hallowed by love for Christ. I cannot find terms to express what I feel as we now part—as we now say farewell! You, who are not members of our glorious Brotherhood, will not understand or appreciate the feelings which fill our hearts as we come together to this Convention, as we clasp the hands of affection and compare experiences or take notes by the way of our important work. There is a tie that binds us all the way from California to Nova Scotia, from Windsor in Canada to Maine. That tie, a loving Providence will not, cannot allow to be broken. We on this Continent have a great mission to perform through our Associations—to bring young men to Jesus. There will be no rivalry, for we cannot have any with this work before us. Let us suffer no rivalry but that of knowing how many we can bring to Jesus. In all sincerity, I have to render my thanks to you for the generous sympathy you have shown in asking me to take charge of this Convention, and had it not been for the great help given me by my Brethren Fisher, Miller and Stuart, I should not have been permitted, as I have been, to bring this Convention to a close without a single jar or unkind word. Thank God that it has been so! Thank God that from all the United States and British Provinces we have come together and discussed many a topic, and have had nothing unkind, nothing unlovely or unworthy of us as professed followers of Jesus. I would thank, in your name, the clergy of this City. Let us never forget that we are always as one with the Churches. Our first duty is with them. I would also for you tender our thanks to the Brethren and friends of the local Association. Here I will not name them. You know them. I would also tender thanks to these kind, loving friends who have taken us to their homes and hearts, and made us to enjoy their hospitality; but the Delegates can best express their thanks, for they all have felt the obligation deeply.

Now, in conclusion, I would say, remember that the eyes of the world are upon us. How anxious the wicked are to find a flaw in our characters; how anxious to find a cause to help them in their excuse for not serving Christ. Let us pray that our bodies may be made sacrifices, holy and acceptable to God. And let us say with the Apostle, "Nevertheless I live, yet not I, but Christ that liveth in me." Brethren, remember that we have taken upon us this profession.

For our Brethren from Canada I thank you for having placed me in this Chair. I feel convinced that it will cement the Christian friendship of the two countries, and that it will be harder than ever before to break this tie that binds us, as Christians, on this Continent.

Brethren, I say farewell! May God bless us, and may we only strive to emulate each other in work for Jesus.

Geo. H. Stuart, of Philadelphia, who had come from a meeting in the Presbyterian Church opposite, where fourteen had requested prayer, was called upon to offer the closing prayer.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the 15th International Convention of Young Men's Christian Associations do now adjourn, to meet in Washington, D. C., pursuant to the call of the Executive Committee.

The Rev. J. B. Brandt, of Indianapolis, pronounced the Benediction. The delegates assembled on the spacious stage of the Academy, joined hands, sang parting hymns, repeated the Lord's Prayer in concert, exchanged heartfelt parting salutations, and, finally, with most solemn souvenirs of their long continued communion with the Master and each other, departed from the scene of so much spiritual enjoyment.



REPORT

OF THE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF THE

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS

OF THE

UNITED STATES AND BRITISH PROVINCES,

PRESENTED TO THE INDIANAPOLIS CONVENTION, JUNE 22, 1870.

(WITH ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS.)



PUBLISHED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

New-York.

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REPORT.

To the Fifteenth Annual Convention of the Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces :

The Executive Committee respectfully submits the following report for the year now ending. It should be remembered, in the consideration of the statement now made, that but about eleven months have really elapsed since the last Convention, and that the variation from the date of the last meeting somewhat affects the character of the report. Statistics of Associations have not, for this reason, been received from as many as we had hoped.

I.—This is the first matter to which we desire to call the attention of the Convention, and as to which action is sought. Too little attention is paid to the requests for reports. The Committee does not complain simply because circulars are unanswered and blanks for reports not returned, though it does not seem improper to expect that a society which has life enough to avail itself of the labors of the various Committees by sending delegates to the Conventions, should also have some officer sufficiently faithful to forward a statistical report of its condition, when a form is furnished for the purpose. But we do complain, because this neglect works an injury to the cause of the Associations the world over. There are yet those who oppose these Societies, though the number grows smaller from year to year. One of their strong arguments is that our Societies do not put themselves on paper; that the Committee gives names of towns where Associations exist, and yet furnishes no facts about them. Our opponents say these are but paper Societies, though the Committee does not include in its list a single name which is not believed by them to represent an Association, and but very few with some representative of which communications have not been exchanged. A little effort on the part of leading Association men in each State, a small additional service on the part of each Corresponding Member of the Committee, a more adequate apprehension of the truth that these Associations, though many, are but one, would remove the cause for the complaint now made. If, by some action on the part of this Convention, the difficulty here adverted to shall be removed, this gathering will not have been in vain,

and a work, compensating for the sacrifice we all make to attend here, would be performed.

II.—The Committee desire, as has been done in former reports, to call the attention of the Convention to the position of the Corresponding Members. They are the representatives of these great gatherings to the Associations of every State or Province. No appointment made by these Conventions is of such considerable importance. In the most of the States these brethren are the sole head of the work; in a few they are supported by a local or State Committee. They should in spirit, as in name, represent the Convention in the best qualities displayed in it—a generous enthusiasm, liberality in purse and effort, a great love for and faith in Associations, and in deep and abiding spirituality. With them especially rests the work for the year. It is the experience of the Committee that there has been no great progress in any State where the Corresponding Member has not taken the lead; and in no instance where he has done so, have results been wanting. The same blessing has not crowned their efforts in all cases; to some have been given but the few drops, to others the plentiful shower, but none have been unrewarded. In the four years since the general work was first referred to the present Committee, there has been great progress in this particular. And it is safe to say that the past year has witnessed greater faithfulness than any of the preceding. There are yet, however, some States which have not been well represented, and it is hoped that the delegates will make the appointment of their representative on the Committee a matter of early consultation, to the end that such nominations may be made by them, and ultimately by the proper Committee to the Convention, as will be profitable to all. Written reports have been received from Clawson, New-Brunswick; Farquhar, Nova Scotia; Rowland, Mass.; Holden, R. I.; Fuller, Conn.; Platt, N. Y.; Carlton, N. J.; Lloyd, Ohio; Farmer, Mich.; Cowles, Wis.; Ransom, Iowa; Douglass, Vt.; Thompson, Md.; Barnard, Ind.; Sleigh, D. C.; Bentley, Neb.; Cree, of Penn.

These are appended to this report, and will be distributed among the delegates before the close of the Convention. They will show, however, but inadequately the character of each field, and the work accomplished.

III.—The State Convention is gradually securing the position which its importance deserves, as an agency for the extension of Associations. The past year seventeen were held, namely, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island,

Connecticut, New-York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin and Iowa; being three more strictly local Conventions than last year. Each was successful; not all largely attended, but every one pervaded by the best spirit and testifying by actual results to the truth of the declaration that they can hardly be made too prominent as a feature in the aggressive phases of our work.

The Executive Committee hoped to be represented at each of these Conventions, but were unable to realize that hope. They were, however, represented at eight, namely, Vermont, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New-York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Iowa and Ontario. With better arrangements and an earlier notification of the meeting of some of them, it is reasonable to expect that a member of the Committee may this year enjoy the privilege of joining with the brethren in the services of each local Convention.

In Ohio, Ontario, Iowa and Indiana, the representatives of the various Associations form a State Association, with a formal constitution and regularly elected officers. In Ohio the plan thus far has developed no objectionable features, and is strongly commended by the brethren from that State. It has not received as thorough a trial elsewhere. The Committee recommend that, in the conferences here in regard to modes of prosecuting State work the State Association plan receive careful consideration.

IV.—The Day of Prayer recommended by the Convention was more generally observed than heretofore; still, many Associations failed to notice it. In a very few instances the circular of the Committee was not received; in a few it was difficult to arrange properly for meetings; but in the vast majority of cases other causes, susceptible of removal, prevented an observance, the importance of which none can over-estimate. Scarcely a meeting was held under the recommendation which was not marked and made memorable by some result testifying the favor of the Master. Scarcely a response to the questions of the Committee declares no results observable.

V.—The following matters were referred to the Committee by the Portland Convention:

1. The Publication of the Hymn-Book prepared by Mr. Wm. Howard Doane. The resolutions forbid the contracting of a debt in the name of the Convention, while no money was furnished to the Committee for the first cost of publication. The Committee could not, therefore, properly

issue the book, as an outlay of some \$2,000 was required. An arrangement was made between Mr. Doane and Messrs. Biglow & Main, of New-York, for publication, with a tariff of two cents on every copy sold, to be paid to the Committee, and to be employed by them in the prosecution of the work with which they are charged by the Conventions.

2. The Committee experienced great difficulty in preparing a Certificate of Life Membership, which they were willing to submit to the Convention as a compliance with the resolution in that regard. After many experiments, and the rejection of a number of designs, they have at last agreed upon one, and proof-copies, it is hoped, will be here ready for examination. It is the expectation of the Committee that it will be reasonably satisfactory to those who have been most earnest in regard to this matter. It has cost all they felt justified in expending upon it, and if further experiments are desired, provision must here be made to meet the increased outlay. Several of our best artists gave the Committee one set of designs each, but we cannot call upon those gentlemen for others without paying their customary charges.

3. The Introduction of the Members of one Association to another upon change of residence has been matter of frequent discussion in our local and general Conventions. On two or three occasions indefinite resolutions have been adopted concerning it. The importance of some general system, so simple in its forms as to secure universal adoption, is recognized by all. No member of our Associations should change his residence without also transferring his interest in Association work to his new home, and connecting himself with the Association where he resides, under some official introduction. This would tend materially to strengthen the tie which binds our Societies together, and promote an interest in the particular work which each is prosecuting. The Ontario Convention, of last fall, adopted admirable resolutions concerning this subject, requiring the local Executive Committee to devise some plan which should be applicable to the Associations of that Province, and also commended it to the consideration of this Convention, and of your Committee. The letters of introduction and of acknowledgement prepared by Mr. Anderson of Toronto, and adopted by the Executive Committee for Ontario and Quebec, seem to be all that is desirable. Copies are appended to this Report, and the Committee recommend their adoption by this Convention for use throughout the Continent.

4. Several conferences have been had by members of the Committee with Hon. Richard C. McCormick, in regard to the completion of his

contemplated History of the Associations, pursuant to the resolution adopted at Portland; and such considerations as seemed most available were presented to him, in the hope that he would in some way carve the time from his other engagements to enable him to complete the work he had begun; but he is unable to do so.

No one can regret, more than the members of this Committee, the conclusion to which Mr. McCormick has most reluctantly arrived. It is believed, however, that some one may be found during the year, to whom he will cheerfully transfer the materials in his possession, and who will complete the work thus begun.

5. Five hundred copies of the Annual Report of the Executive Committee, with the accompanying documents, and fifteen hundred copies of the Proceedings of the Portland Convention, including that report, were printed by the Committee. The report, as separately printed, was circulated gratuitously, and, as is thought, with very much advantage to the cause. This year it is proposed to make a much wider distribution. Of the proceedings complete as published, 1,012 copies were distributed to the Associations, at fifty cents each, under subscriptions made at Portland. The remainder were distributed from time to time during the year, to newspapers in America and Europe, and to those interested in, or seeking information in regard to our work, on both sides of the Atlantic.

6. The Portland Convention directed the Committee to publish a monthly periodical in the place of the Quarterly issued up to that time. Great difficulty was experienced in securing a person willing to undertake the double duties of General Agent and Editor of the Monthly. Correspondence was had with leading men of the Associations, and others in all sections, with reference to such a person, but no one could be found, satisfactory to the Committee, who was willing to undertake the work. Shortly after the adjournment of that Convention, a proposition was made to Mr. Richard C. Morse, of New-York, but he declined to entertain it. As our search in other places failed, application was again made to him. Finally, in the latter part of October, Mr. Morse consented to leave an important position in the editorial rooms of the *Observer*, and undertake this branch of the work of the Associations. There were many considerations which satisfied the Committee of his peculiar fitness for it. A contract was made with him to run for one year, at a salary of \$2,000, payable monthly, to be terminated on a three months' notice by either party, with a contingent interest in

the paper when it should be finally established on a paying basis, and all advances made by the Committee returned. That contract is submitted herewith. Mr. Morse immediately entered upon his work with the greatest enthusiasm, under plans, then and now, deemed to have been most wise. A description of the paper as issued seems unnecessary, as all the delegates are undoubtedly familiar with it. Six numbers have been issued, beginning with January 1st, and an edition of seven thousand copies has been regularly published until the June number, when it was increased to ten, at which it is proposed to maintain it. The subscription list was on the first of June about eleven hundred in advance of the pledges made at Portland, and is constantly increasing. The advertising list of the paper is excellent. The Committee are glad to say, however, that there is nothing now due from the Monthly to the treasury of the Committee. All the expenses of publication, including the whole salary of Mr. Morse, have been paid out of the receipts, and there remains quite a sum outstanding and collectable, with which to meet some of the expenses of the next six months. The Committee is of opinion, if the subscriptions to the Monthly increase as heretofore, that its cost for its first year will be almost wholly met by the proceeds of subscriptions and advertisements.

It should be stated, here, that the demands made upon the editor of the paper are such as to exclude any very considerable service as General Agent of the Committee—this work, as heretofore, has been performed by the various members.

The views of the Committee in respect to the necessity for a periodical representing the work of the Associations in its various forms, have been presented on other occasions, and remain unchanged, save that the experience of the past year has served to confirm them.

The only discouragement in the effort to establish this periodical seems to lie in the failure of the members of our Associations to appreciate its importance to the cause which they so dearly love.

The field for a paper adapted to the position and duties of young men on this Continent has not as yet been occupied. The members of the Associations, conscious of the power which their fellows possess, should seek by the establishment of a fit periodical to mould and direct this power aright. Since the Convention at Buffalo in 1854, this has been a darling idea with our best men. The members of more than eight hundred Associations can now make that idea a reality if they will.

We all claim that these Associations are but a manifestation of the power of the Church of Christ in a single line of aggressive service ; and holding this position, every person engaged in this service needs all the counsel, all the information that can possibly be secured, to render it most available. It is not mere exhortation that is needed, for young men are proverbially earnest, enthusiastic, aggressive ; it is instruction, calm and temperate counsel, and actual experience, illustrated by incidents, and brought to bear directly upon the work in hand, that is required. This a paper representing the Associations should furnish, and this we feel the "Monthly" has done in a good degree, considering the short time it has been in the field.

More than this, a chief lack to-day is a sympathy between all the Associations of the Continent in regard to the work which they have to perform, not in their local spheres only, but for the whole body of young men who give such activity and force to all phases of American life, and in regard to which they possess such controlling power. An Association but half comprehends its mission, which limits its vision to the narrow boundaries of the town or city in which it is established—which cannot see that it stands, with the more than eight hundred others which dot the Continent, as one with them in a scheme of effort for the moral elevation and religious culture of the young men of America. In the fostering of such a spirit the "Monthly," if properly supported, will perform a leading part ; and the Associations can afford one, and even five, years of a stupid, an unremunerative paper, if at the end of that time they shall have founded one that will measurably subserve the purposes here indicated. But the Committee, acting under the direction of the Conventions, asks no sacrifice, in this regard, on the part of any of the brethren. We ask a subscription list corresponding to the list of our membership, for a paper which belongs to each member as much as to us, and from which each one will derive far more than an equivalent for the dollar that he pays.

The Committee ask no greater favor than they have received at the hands of the leading religious men and writers of the day. Everywhere our applications for contributions have been welcomed, because those to whom we have applied have seen in the constituency which the paper represented, a wide and hopeful field in which to sow their thoughts ; and men in all parts of the land, overburdened with pastoral, professorial and professional calls, have put them aside, that they might speak a word of counsel or encouragement, out of their large love and large experience, to the young men of the land. These men, and others who look

up to them with confidence, have by this means been led to study the organizations more closely, and to give them their confidence more unreservedly than heretofore.

A proper interest in the "Monthly," on the part of the Associations, would not only render it entirely self-supporting, but would bring a handsome revenue to the Committee—enough to sustain an agent in the field from year to year. Indeed, it would do more than this. It is not unreasonable to ask for twenty thousand subscribers from the membership of the Associations. This number could easily be furnished within the year. This, with the then enhanced value of our advertisements, would so increase the income applicable to the work of your Committee as to render almost wholly unnecessary any considerable call for donations. It is an easy mode in which to provide funds for the general work. The hope is indulged, that the conferences of the Convention upon this topic, and its final action, will be such as to guarantee this result.

The accounts of the paper, in detail, form a part of this Report.

7. After the adjournment of the Portland Convention, Mr. Weidensall was instructed by the Committee to canvass thoroughly the State of Kansas, that being the only one not embraced in the Southern field in which the cause of the Associations had not been fully presented. It was the expectation of the Committee that many Associations could be formed, and large results realized. After completing this work Mr. W. was to visit the principal towns in Missouri and southern Illinois, whether they contained Associations or not. Dangerous sickness of himself, and also of near relatives, detained him from the field for a long time on two occasions; he has, however, performed his work with great thoroughness, and the Committee is satisfied with his services. The expense of this mission is stated in the financial summary in this Report.

It was found impossible to organize as many Associations in Kansas as had been expected. The towns as yet seem, many of them, too small to sustain these organizations without weakening other efforts in the same direction already being made. Mr. Weidensall was instructed to avoid everything which could in any way give countenance to the idea that the Associations occupied a position of rivalry in respect to church organizations. It was made his first duty to secure the sympathy and co-operation of pastors of Evangelical churches. In a large number of towns visited by him, he could do little else but present the advantage

of union efforts, and secure the appointment of committees in the various churches. The advantages of our Associations, in all places where they could be properly sustained, were always presented, and the committees formed by him look upon it as their duty to establish such societies in their towns at the first favorable moment. At all proper times he has taken such parts as were assigned him in religious meetings; and on all occasions where it was expedient—and there were many—he has been instrumental in convening the citizens, that he might present to them collectively, the necessity and value of the union of various denominations for the purposes of aggressive Christian work in regard to special fields. There are as yet, however, but seven Associations in the State of Kansas. These are as prosperous as corresponding societies anywhere at the West. An unexpected call of Dr. Baker, who was appointed Corresponding Member for Kansas, to the East, and our inability at once to fill the vacancy, operated materially against the work of Mr. Weidensall, as it not only prevented the early convening of a State Convention, from which much was anticipated, but finally operated to defer it until fall, and that, too, after the chief part of the arrangements in regard to it had been completed.

In Missouri and southern Illinois Mr. Weidensall has also rendered an important service, some of the details of which will appear in his report. He does not, however, advert with any fullness, either as to these two States or to Kansas, to the large general missionary service he has performed bearing only incidentally upon Association work. Wherever he has rested, he has done the work of an Evangelist with as much faithfulness and assiduity as it is performed by any of those well known to the country, now engaged in a kindred work; but this was incidental to his mission, and was performed when his time could not be given to the direct and simple work with which he was mainly charged. At St. Louis and at Jefferson City he devoted himself almost exclusively to an effort for the benefit of German organizations; in both cities he was eminently successful, and the position of the German young men there, in regard to Associational work, is such as to warrant the expectation that the right way has at last been found for the maintenance of Associations among them elsewhere. But the Committee trust that this topic relating to organizations among our German brethren will receive full consideration in this Convention, and that, as a

result from it, they may be enabled to employ Mr. Weidensall for a portion of the coming year in this branch of the work.

The report of Mr. Weidensall for the year is subjoined.

8. Two causes prevented an early undertaking by the Committee of the visit to the cities in the Southern States: (1) Inability to procure a person exactly suited to the work; and (2) the delay on the part of the most of those who subscribed to the fund in sending forward their subscriptions. It was not until the middle of March that the visit could be begun. Mr. William F. Lee, of this Committee, and Rev. George A. Hall, of Washington, left their engagements at home to carry out in some measure, if possible, the wishes of the Portland Convention. Altogether, they visited twenty of the leading places in the Southern States. Of course their stay in each was brief, averaging two days.

Everywhere they were received with the greatest cordiality. But few of the Associations which existed at the time of the Troy Convention are at present maintained. Mr. Hall found efforts in progress, at New Orleans, for the organization of an Association, when he reached that city. One has been formed at Mobile, since his visit, from which the most encouraging reports have been received. The approach of warm weather rendered it inexpedient to perfect organizations this season, but such steps were taken in the appointment of committees, the distribution of documents, and the friendly discussion of the merits and claims of these Associations, as to render it in the highest degree probable that organizations will be completed upon the return of cool weather. The Committee is now advised of the existence of Associations at New Orleans, Mobile, Montgomery, Selma, Savannah, Charleston, Richmond, Chattanooga, Raleigh, Meridian and Memphis. They are not in correspondence with that of Richmond.

There is another branch of work at the South which it may be proper for the Convention specially to consider in this connection, namely, the formation of Associations among colored young men. There are already some six or eight of these. Of course they are small, and their resources are limited. The correspondence of the Committee with some of them has been quite extensive, and, as far as can be judged, the societies are moderately successful. The Committee has not felt disposed, considering all the circumstances relating to the matter, to adopt any particular measures for the encouragement of these societies beyond any others kindred in character,

elsewhere; they have stood upon the same footing in regard to all the action of the Committee.

It is believed, however, to be the plain duty of the Associations represented in this Convention, to make ample provision for the prompt prosecution of the general work of visitation, as to all young men, without distinction of color, as soon as the season will permit. The visit already made, by its fraternal character, and by the generous enthusiasm which marked it, by the larger acquaintance which it has secured between the representatives of the Convention and the friends of Christian work among the young men in the South, has encouraged us to hope that the next general gathering of these Associations will witness the meeting of delegates from all parts of the Continent, as at the Troy Convention in 1859; and may God speed the day!

VII. — The correspondence with the Associations abroad has been far more extensive than heretofore, embracing the principal societies and their leading members in Great Britain and Ireland, France, Holland, Belgium, Switzerland, Prussia and the Associations scattered in other parts of Europe. Letters of introduction have been given by the Committee to a large number of Association men going abroad; and they desire here to testify to the Christian courtesy and fraternal regard with which all such persons have been received by the brethren in Europe.

They desire especially to testify to the fullness and interest of the communications they have received, from time to time, from persons most prominently connected with the Association work, and particularly from Messrs. Shipton, of London; Nash, of Liverpool; James, of Dublin; Dobson, of Manchester; Van Oosterwijk Bruyn, of Amsterdam; Klug, of Elberfeld; Brall, of Wessell; and Cote, of Paris—all bearing witness to the sympathy now existing between the Associations on either side of the Atlantic, in regard to the mighty work which they have in hand.

It may be stated that the Day of Prayer recommended at Portland was as generally observed by the Associations in Europe as here. The circular of the Committee was reprinted by the Dublin Association, and, accompanied by one of their own, noting special objects of prayer, was distributed throughout the kingdom; and copies were received here for distribution to the leading Associations.

An extract from a letter of Mr. Nash will show, better than any words of the Committee, how the recommendation was received by our

brethren abroad. This is but one of many letters, kindred in tone and character; and the observance of the day more than equalled the promise of the letter :

"I am now able to inform you definitely that I have, up to to-day (Saturday) October 30th, obtained written promises from 85 (eighty-five) Ministers, of all denominations, to preach special sermons to young men, and to make special prayer to Almighty God for young men, on the second Sabbath in November, viz., the 14th of November, in accordance with your wishes, expressed in your circular letter to me, bearing date the 6th inst. I hope this will be satisfactory to your Committee. You may safely conclude that we (D. V.) shall have preached over 100 sermons, and special prayer made for, and on behalf of, young men on that day. I have not received replies from all my circular letters; they come in, a few at a time, day by day. We shall have special prayer, once or twice, in our rooms upon that day. I have written to a great number of Young Men's Christian Associations in England, and the matter will be taken up by them generally. I don't know for sermons, but as regards prayer, nearly all the Young Men's Christian Associations will observe the day set apart. * * * * *

"It afforded me much pleasure this morning to give a cordial welcome to two brethren from the Boston Young Men's Christian Association—one arrived here yesterday or rather this morning, the other arrived here on Wednesday last,

"I shall always be glad to hear from you and from the dear brethren in America, and shall be also glad to receive such documents from time to time as you can spare.

"Hoping, that on the second Sabbath in November, the Good Lord will shower down his richest blessings upon Young Men's Christian Associations generally, and also upon the tens of thousands of the young men throughout the world, and, assuring you of the happiness it affords me to respond to your appeal, with brotherly greeting from Liverpool to the American brethren, I am, &c."

On the 25th day of August next, the General Conference of the Young Men's Christian Associations will assemble at Amsterdam. The services will continue for five days. Letters have been received by the Committee from those having the arrangements in charge, urging a full representation on the part of the American Associations. The programme, as already published, promises that this gathering will not be inferior to any that have preceded it in all the elements

which have constituted the interesting and profitable features of those conferences. Heretofore there has been a failure to attend on the part of some who have been appointed delegates from the American Associations. The Committee trust that such selections will be made by this Convention as to insure a full representation. The Committee beg leave to nominate as four of the representatives, T. James Claxton, of Montreal, J. N. Harris, of New London, Conn., J. O. Wood, of Edgewater, New-York, and Austin Abbott of New-York City.

VIII.—There is very little in the way of printing and publishing by the Committee to be mentioned in addition to the publication of the Proceedings and the "Monthly." It is confined to the usual circulars required in the prosecution of Committee work, to a new edition of the "Suggestions," and of Dr. Morse's Essay (the demand for both being large), and to one new pamphlet of the same size, reprinted from the "Quarterly" on the "Test of Active Membership." This was issued because of the numerous applications for the views of the Committee in regard to the "Test" adopted at Detroit and reaffirmed at Portland. It also contained the resolutions of the Conventions upon the subject.

IX.—The following is a summary of the Reports furnished to the Committee by the Associations.

(1.) There are now 802 Associations on this Continent, 207 having been organized during the current year; 64 of those embraced in the enumeration of last year are omitted in this.

(2.) 356 have reported to this Convention.

(3.) 238 report their expenses for the year at \$218,436.

(4.) 133 report the number of the volumes in their libraries as 56,560.

(5.) 325 report 50,901 members.

(6.) 61 report daily prayer meetings.

(7.) 52 report Bible classes; 60 report open-air services; 109 report sermons.

(8.) 78 report 2,227 conversions.

A much larger proportion of Associations than heretofore report a considerable religious interest and some conversions. Very many refrain from any enumeration, preferring to state that their meetings have been well attended—extremely interesting—and that they believe there have been many conversions, but they are unable to tell how many.

(9.) In regard to buildings and building funds, there has been but little change since last year. Rockport, Mass., with a population of three

thousand five hundred, has a building, completed within the last year, valued at \$3,500. The building fund of the Boston Association has increased from \$31,150 to \$85,000. At Aurora, Ill., a building is in course of erection. Brooklyn reports a large number of pledges, but no fixed subscriptions; that Association will, however, begin in the fall, with excellent prospects for success, direct efforts for the erection of its building, the plans for which were matured a year ago. All the Associations reporting building funds at Portland, state this year an increase in the amount. Three Associations in addition to those named one year ago, report building funds; in St. Louis, \$20,000, and Manchester, N. H., \$500; Chelsea, Mass., \$450.

The rooms of two Associations have been wholly destroyed by fire during the past year, with all their property, viz.: Biddeford, Me., and Bristol, Conn., but each is now reported as having substantially recovered from the effects of the misfortune.

The Committee is confident that there has been a steady growth in the Associations in all that goes to make up real power for effective service. A few of the weaker and more feeble have died, but the number is inconsiderable. In some of the States there has been a great increase in numbers, as in Pennsylvania, where, one year ago, twenty-one Associations had a nominal existence; now sixty-six furnish reports to Mr. Thomas K. Cree, the Corresponding Member for that State, and steps are being taken to complete organizations in many other towns and cities. In New Brunswick, Mr. Clawson reports eleven Associations against three of last year. Mr. Farquhar reports an increase of twenty-six in Nova Scotia.

X.—The Committee submits for the consideration of the Convention the following, as some of the topics which seem to arise from the present condition of the Associations, and they venture to bespeak for them calm, temperate and practical discussion in a form so condensed and yet so full and ample as to enable them in the Report of the Proceedings to present to the Associations of America a body of suggestions from this Convention both timely and valuable.

1. What branch of Association work has afforded most encouragement during the past year?
2. The difficulties and hindrances encountered during the year.
3. How shall we best impress upon our members, and upon the community, a conviction of the permanency of these societies?

XVII

4. The pledge of each person, upon joining an Association, to direct personal effort for the salvation of young men.

5. The duty of the office-bearers and leaders in the Associations in regard to the purely religious work, and the mode in which it can be best performed.

6. The importance of embracing German young men in our efforts for the increase of Associations, the character and success of such as have been heretofore made, and the best plans for the further prosecution of this work.

7. The Associations of America, not simply isolated organizations engaged in a local work, but charged also with the duty of a large and important service, in the Saviour's name, for each other, and for the young men of the whole Continent.

8. How can the work of Associations be most successfully carried on in the smaller towns?

XI.—The detailed accounts of the Treasurer accompany this report. The following is a summary :

Whole cost of publishing the annual report.....	\$800 26	
Received from sales.....	508 60	
	<hr/>	
Deficit....		\$296 66
	<hr/>	
Salary of Mr. Weidensall.....	\$1,411 74	
Traveling expenses.	83 34	
	<hr/>	
		\$1,495 08
	<hr/>	
Received on account of the Southern work.....		\$1,256 00
Traveling expenses of Messrs. Lee and Hall.....	\$504 19	
Salary of Mr. Hall.....	138 33	
Sundry small items.....	28 60	
	<hr/>	
		666 12
		<hr/>
		\$589 88
	<hr/>	
Received from subscriptions for the Monthly.	\$2,088 51	
Received from advertisements.....	2,096 66	
	<hr/>	
		\$4,185 17
Salary of Mr. Morse.....	\$766 64	
Total cost of first five numbers of the Monthly.....	3,268 84	
	<hr/>	
		4,084 98
		<hr/>
		\$150 19

XVIII

Received from subscriptions to general expenses.....	\$3,768 50
Due on subscriptions to the Monthly.....	369 00
Received on account of Southern work.....	1,256 00
Expended, Western work.....	\$1,445 08
" Proceedings	296 66
" printing and stationery.....	233 82
" postage.....	174 11
" miscellaneous expenses.....	235 84
	<hr/>
	\$2,345 01

Remaining from subscriptions to general expenses..... \$1,423 49

This last sum is subject of course to the expenses attendant upon this Convention and the chance of loss on the next six numbers of the "Monthly."

XII.—The Committee submits the following matters to the Convention for consideration and action :

(1.) The approval of the certificate of life membership herewith submitted.

(2.) The appointment of delegates to the General Conference at Amsterdam.

(3.) The adoption of a resolution directing the Committee, in the name of the Convention, to transmit a letter of fraternal greeting to that Conference.

(4.) The consideration of the Report of the Lecture Bureau, and appropriate action for the promotion of its greater efficiency and usefulness in the future.

(5.) The recommendation of the second Sabbath in November as a Day of Prayer for the Associations of the world, and the adoption of a resolution requesting the Amsterdam Conference to concur in the designation of that day.

(6.) The adoption of such a policy as will secure the permanent establishment of the Association "Monthly."

(7.) Authority to continue the employment of Mr. Weidensall as the Western Agent of the Association, and also to employ for the nine working months at the South a suitable person on that field.

(8.) The taking of a subscription, which, coupled with the amount now on hand, will provide for the general expenses of the Committee for the ensuing year, and for the salaries and traveling expenses of the Agent just mentioned.

(9). Permission to employ, if the profits of the "Monthly" and the proceeds of the copyright on the Hymn Book will warrant it, a person to visit the Associations in the Eastern, Middle Central, and Western States and Dominion of Canada.

(10.) The question of reducing the ratio of representation has frequently been raised in letters received by the Committee, as well as in conferences with members of the Association, and the attention of the Convention to this matter is respectfully requested. The difficulty of obtaining entertainment for so large a number of delegates as have now a right to be present, is a serious one. There are other grave considerations relating to this topic, which can better be presented when it shall be discussed.

(11.) It has been frequently suggested by warm friends of our cause that it would be better if these General Conventions were called biennially; some advocate the change strongly. Your Committee is not prepared to make a recommendation in regard to the matter. The Convention is asked to consider it when the question of selecting a place for our next meeting becomes material.

Respectfully submitted,

CEPHAS BRAINERD, *Chairman.*

22d June, 1870.

REPORTS OF CORRESPONDING MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, FOR THE SEVERAL STATES AND PROVINCES.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

At the last International Convention, the delegates from St. John reported three Associations in New Brunswick. Since then, at the call of the St. John Association, a Convention was held which resulted in the formation of eight Associations, making eleven in all, viz.: St. John, Bathurst, Richibucto, Newcastle, Chatham, Carleton, Moncton, Petitcodiac, Upper Norton, Central Norton and St. Andrews. Of the latter I have received no official advice.

The Association at St. John, now in the third year of its existence, has a membership, on the revised roll, of 540, which is an increase of 290 during the year. This Association enjoys a fair degree of prosperity in all the branches of its work. The Bible Class on Sabbath afternoon is well conducted and highly interesting; average attendance, 22. The literary meeting, every Tuesday evening, is instructive and entertaining; average attendance, 60. Weekly prayer meeting; average attendance, 20. Union prayer meetings and social gatherings are held at intervals, and mission work and tract distributing have been carried on in various parts of the city. The Association has had two col-porteurs actively engaged in selling and distributing books and tracts throughout the city and various parts of the Province. 126,000 pages of tracts, and 3,150 Bibles and religious books have been disposed of through this agency.

The other Associations throughout the Province have a membership of from 20 to 50 each. Some of them are actively engaged in the usual Association work, and are in prosperous condition. Newcastle reports great and continued success in cottage prayer meetings. At Upper and Central Norton, at Carleton and at St. Andrews, good lectures have been given.

Denominational feeling has slightly impeded the general progress, and in some places has prevented the extension of the work; but the great drawback is the lack of spiritual life and energy in many of the members. Were we all endued with power from on high, no obstacle could prevent our success.

JOSHUA CLAWSON,

Cor. Mem. for New Brunswick.

NOVA SCOTIA.

THE work in Nova Scotia during the past year has been generally prosperous. Immediately after the Portland Convention, we were much refreshed and encouraged by a visit from Brother Thane Miller.

In September, 1869, the Third Annual Convention of Y. M. C. A. of the Maritime Provinces of British America was held in Pictou. The Convention was in session from Thursday till Sabbath evening, when the farewell meeting was held. The occasion was one of deep interest. Faithful appeals to young and old, and earnest prayers, often moved the assembly to tears. Open-air services for the first time were held in the town; for months after, and indeed up to the present moment, there is fruit to the glory of God being gathered in as the result of that Convention. It was preceded by a time of prayer, for cir-

culars were addressed to all the Evangelical ministers in the Province for prayer in behalf of the Convention before it assembled, and we can truly say they have been abundantly answered in the happy conversion of many.

The published report of the proceedings of the Convention closes with the following:

"Thus ended the most successful and interesting series of meetings ever held in this Province. Good fruit has already been brought forth, but eternity alone will reveal the blessed results flowing from the meeting of the Convention. * * * The Convention has been followed by a deep religious feeling in the community of Pictou, and an outpouring of God's holy spirit has been manifested in the conversion of a number to be followers of Jesus. It would be premature at present to speak of the extent of the work, but we believe it to be both real and lasting: quickening to fresh life professing followers of the Lord, and plucking souls as brands from the burning. To God's name be all the glory."

Your annual call for united prayer in November was well observed by all the Associations, and in many places much apparent good resulted.

In Pictou and Truro, the two largest towns of the Province, several hundred have been added to the churches, I may safely say, mainly through the instrumentality of the Associations.

About ten new Associations have been organized since I last officially reported to you. Some of the others were in a drooping condition, and by judicious visits of the President of the Halifax Association and Brother Maclean, some of them have been revived.

Our official report of the Halifax Association has already been transmitted; but I may here state that all the committees are active in the discharge of the duties assigned them. The Tract Distribution, Sick Visitation, Employment and Strangers, besides the ordinary work of the Association, have all had their places assigned and are systematically working out the problem "How can we best accomplish the mental and spiritual improvement of young men?"

One incident calls for special notice: Several of our active members were passengers in the missing steamer "City of Boston," one of whom, A. K. Doull, Esq., was one of the delegates at the Portland Convention last year. Mr. Doull was for twelve years an active member of the committee of the Halifax Association, and his name now stands among the list of Vice-Presidents; and we fear it will be long before his place will be filled by one who will as faithfully discharge the duties. May we all hear the voice, "Be ye also ready."

The Executive Committee of the Convention have just met and unanimously agreed that the Fourth Annual Convention of Y. M. C. A.'s for the Maritime Provinces will be held in Charlottetown, Prince Edward's Island, in the month of September, this year.

JAMES FARQUHAR,
Cor. Mem. for Nova Scotia.

VERMONT.

THE Associations in Vermont owe their life and success to the blessing of God upon *personal effort*. They were organized after fervent prayer and faithful labor, by a few ardent hearts in each locality, and they are sustained by con-

stant exertion. Perhaps a peculiar feature of the work in Vermont is, the general favor shown us by our Pastors. The number of Associations in our smaller towns is another cause for gratitude. They exist in little villages where there is but one church. Members of different denominations meet in the Association prayer meetings, and work together quite profitably there. The proportion of Associations is one to less than five towns through the State, and our membership is not less than one in one hundred of the entire population.

In one small village where, three years ago, there was neither prayer meeting, Sunday School, nor regular Church service, an Association was organized, and as a result of this, there are to-day two churches in the place (each having a pleasant house of worship) two Sunday Schools, and four prayer meetings weekly. In another town among the mountains, with a population of about 1,000, they have an Association of 124 members, hold *seven* prayer meetings each week, and have been greatly blessed in the conversion of many souls the past winter. Another Association has been holding thirteen meetings each week, every school-house in town being supplied with a delegation of working Christians every Sunday evening. As a result, nearly one hundred heads of families—father, or mother, or both, have been converted.

Most of the fifty-three Associations in the State have been visited by a member of the Executive Committee since the 1st of January, 1870, with very encouraging results. Some of our smaller Associations are doing a noble work, often at a great sacrifice, and against organized opposition. Young men working for their daily bread walk miles at night to attend meetings, give their hard earned dollars for tracts, and bravely meet for Christ's sake the scoffs and scorn of former comrades.

Considering all the benefits resulting from these organizations, and this work in Vermont, not the least is the *growth in Christian activity and usefulness of our young people.*

O. B. DOUGLASS,

Cor. Mem. Ex. Com. for Vermont.

MASSACHUSETTS.

THE following Associations have been organized during the past year: Hubbardston, L. J. Powers, *Sec.*; Newburyport, Rev. James Powell; Riverdale; East Gloucester, Rev. Mr. Hall; Saxonville; Taunton, William H. Fox, *Pres.*; Webster (Young Men's Working Band); Wellesley, Edward G. Tileston, *Pres.*; Charleston, Charles E. Daniels, *Pres.*; Townsend, J. W. Eastman, *Pres.* Total number of Associations in the State, 112. Estimated membership, 15,200.

The Associations are, generally, in a healthy, active state. Many of them are largely engaged in Mission Sunday-schools, neighborhood prayer meetings, and making little or no effective, aggressive efforts to save the young men of their communities to the Church. Ask the Church if they need young men and they reply, most emphatically, yes; more than any other class.

Many, and most of the Associations, suffer for the want of a capable leader; some one to plan and to set in motion all the wheels.

Most of our Association Reading-rooms are not attractive because not social. What is indispensable is two young men (who can laugh and not feel sorry for it) to be at the Rooms each evening, to make the place chatty and cheerful; make it the Christian's Bar-room, and to call it so if it will get the young men in. The rum shops are social, and the rum sellers are known by young men to be a social set of men. Are we, as Y. M. C. A. young men, in good repute among our fellows, and who is at fault if we are not, but ourselves? *Two young men every evening at the Rooms, from 7 to 10 o'clock, is the remedy.* I don't mean the same men every night.

The Third Annual State Convention was held at Lowell, October 14th and 15th, and was attended by 235 delegates from forty Associations. It was presided over by Mr. Alfred S. Woodworth, of Boston, and was one of the most spiritual gatherings ever attended. The people of Lowell were thoroughly aroused, and all our meetings were full; the evening sessions being necessarily held in two churches at one time.

Several large and most interesting Open-Air Meetings were held each day by the Convention, one meeting numbering over 1,500 present. Seven conversions are known to have occurred through their instrumentality.

It was a blessing to Lowell, because they took advantage of its coming to make it a blessing. It was a blessing to all the Associations represented. Here let me say, the Associations can find no other way of getting as much practical knowledge of the young men, their wants, and the best way to reach them in so short a time as through these Conventions. Every Association that neglects the Convention neglects its work. A good number of our pastors were present and took a part in our exercises.

In the circulation of "little books" I have imported over 6,000,000, which have been distributed by this and sister Associations, resulting in hundreds of conversions. These little books I still import, having just received one and a half tons, and furnish in quantity of \$5 worth and upwards at 29 cents a pound weight, which is 33 per cent. cheaper in price than any offer made the Associations on the Continent. 12,000 of the Pocket Y. M. C. A. Hymn Book have been published.

I have spoken publicly outside of Boston one hundred and eight times during the year.

I have faith in the Y. M. C. A. of the future. I think action is what we need, not words.

L. P. ROWLAND, JR.,

Cor. Mem. for Massachusetts.

RHODE ISLAND.

DEAR SIR—Our work in Rhode Island is in a better condition than at any time for several years. Two years ago we called a Christian Convention, to meet at Providence with the Association, and we had a glorious gathering. This year the Westerly Association invited the Convention to meet with them, and a large and deeply interesting meeting was held.

We have four active Associations in Rhode Island, also an Association at Newport, that has a name but little life.

The Bristol Association has a membership of 181; has been organized

six years. They have a building fund ; a reading room ; a library of 2,000 volumes ; conversation room. Distributed from library, during the past year, 6,000. They have had a course of lectures, and a course of sermons to young men by the Pastor of the town ; well attended. Prayer meeting every Sabbath at their rooms, at an hour that does not interfere with the Church meeting. They propose changing their meeting to an open-air meeting, during the Summer months. They have been holding a series of Union Prayer meetings during the past season, conducted by the members of the Association.

Their Tract Committee have in charge furnishing of steam-cars and steam-boats with religious reading, and for this purpose have procured and attached racks to the cars and boats, which are filled with reading matter. Over the rack, printed on a suitable card, the words " Bristol Y. M. C. A.," " Take one." Papers are read carefully and sometimes returned. The committee also attend to the distribution of tracts on the street and elsewhere.

They adopt the plan of placing stamps on letters found in Post-Office without stamp. The President reports that a deeper feeling is manifest among the membership than ever before, and he feels very hopeful for the future of the Association. *Pres.*, Wm. H. Spooner ; *Cor. Sec.*, Wm. J. Miller.

The Pawtucket Association have started a free library and a free reading room. Average daily attendance at rooms during the year, 100 ; weekly prayer meetings at the room. Sermons have been preached during the year on Sabbath evenings to young men, by ministers of that and the neighboring towns.

The Association has forwarded during the year about 300 letters found in the Post Office without stamp, and have received in small amounts, sums sufficient to cover the expense. The members of the Association assist in sustaining three or four missions at the north and east of the town. *Pres.*, P. E. Tillinghast ; *Cor. Sec.*, Edward Braman.

The President of the Westerly Association reports that their Mission work is going on quietly. During the year there have been about 29 conversions. More than half of these have united with the Church, and are earnest, faithful workers. 1,017 families visited, (they employ a missionary.) Daily and semi-weekly Prayer Meetings held at rooms ; held a series of Open-Air Meetings during the warm weather ; series of sermons on Sabbath evenings to young men ; a course of lectures ; membership, 122 ; current expense, \$1,200 ; free reading-room ; average attendance, 30 ; building fund, \$5,000. The President says, in looking over the year, " We bless God and take courage." *Pres.*, R. F. Lattimer ; *Cor. Sec.*, J. A. Babcock.

The Providence Association are still working for Christ. They have held a Daily and Weekly Prayer Meeting throughout the year. The noon day meeting has been well attended ; at times crowded. Last winter a circular was sent by the Missionary Committee of the Association to the pastors of the State, asking them to visit this meeting as often as convenient, also to read the notice to their congregations : a new impulse was given to the meeting. An invitation was extended to the pastors of the City, and some of the surrounding towns to lead the meetings ; almost unanimously they responded.

The Saturday Evening Meetings held at 8½ o'clock, have been largely attended. Two meetings were held for some time, one an hour before the regular

one, in a Sailor's boarding-house, and quite a number have been brought from these meetings to the regular meeting, and some have risen for prayer.

Tract distribution on the street and in the saloon, singing just previous to the commencement of the meeting at the door has been a part of the labor for the evening.

The open-air meetings were very successful and very interesting, conducted by laymen, under the charge of the Missionary Committee.

During the winter several social meetings were held. Cards of invitation were distributed through the manufactories and stores, inviting gentlemen and ladies; music and speaking were the order of the hour, and every one so far as could be heard, felt they really had spent a social time. The hall was crowded at the last one to its fullest extent. The Association would recommend this as one of the best means of getting the young men of a city or town interested in our work.

Providence is a centre for the State, and it is the endeavor of the brethren of the Association here, to make its power felt in all our borders.

Pres., John Kendrick; *Cor. Sec.*, David W. Hoyt.

An Association has just been organized at Wyoming, a small place in the southern part of the State, and we hope to hear from there good news.

Pres., Rev. S. D. Ashley.

E. R. HOLDEN,
Cor. Mem. for Rhode Island.

CONNECTICUT.

SEVERAL new Associations have been organized during the past year, yet probably the number of Associations to whom it may be said, "I know Thy works and charity and service and faith, and Thy patience, and Thy works; and the last to be more than the first," is not greatly increased; so that were we to base our prosperity or success on a *numerical* standard, we should have very little to encourage us. But when we reflect upon the amount of good seed that has been sown; the dissemination of Holy Gospel Truth among the masses; the increased Christian fellowship among those who, while they differ in name, yet join heart and hand in the Association work, under the leadership of "the Captain of their Salvation," being "all one in Christ Jesus," we may exclaim with the Psalmist, "Be of good cheer and He shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the Lord."

Many of these Associations spring into existence like Jonah's gourd, and decline as quickly. An increased interest in the churches begets a longing to enter into a more aggressive effort for the salvation of souls; minor differences and petty jealousies are consequently given up, and this union of heart and action *organized* becomes an Association. But soon activity is relapsed and the spirit of indifference or sectarian jealousy breaks the bond of union. Several very happy exceptions to the above proposition have come under my observation, where Associations have fully maintained their active pioneer mission labors, and thus sustained an unusual degree of Christian vitality in the community.

In the State of Connecticut there has existed since their first organization in 1858 forty-one Y. M. C. Associations. Thirty-four of these still maintain at

MARYLAND.

OUR cause is gaining strength in Maryland. New Associations are being organized in many of the towns and villages, and our prospects in Baltimore have never before been so bright. The following notes were gathered at our last monthly meeting :

During the month fifty-three prayer meetings had been held, resulting, it is believed, in the salvation of many souls. Open-air meetings had been held in the market-places and on the wharves, where thousands had listened to the story of the Cross. 10 000 tracts and 5,000 copies of the " Good News," (a paper published by our Association,) had been distributed, about 1,100 missionary visits had been made, nearly 300 children had been gathered into our missionary schools, several hundred meals had been furnished to the needy young men out of employment, assisted the widows and the orphans, the sick visited, and to the poor the Gospel was preached. Our rooms had been to the stranger a home, and to the tempted a refuge. In more than 200 bar-rooms interesting and fruitful services had been held.

J. W. THOMPSON,

Cor. Mem. for Maryland.

OHIO.

THE Association work in Ohio has been well organized and vigorously prosecuted. In 1867 we determined to organize a State Association. A Convention was called for the purpose, which met at Columbus in October. Instead of a mere Convention, a regular State Association was instituted, with Constitution and By Laws and a complete set of officers. The plan was perfected at the next meeting of the Association, held in Cleveland in 1868. The officers were chosen from different parts of the State, a district assigned to each, and great efficiency was thus secured. The system has proved so advantageous that we heartily commend it to others.

The " Laymen's Institute," which was inaugurated at Cincinnati last year was so successful that it has been made a permanent feature of this Association. Monthly meetings for the instruction of laymen are to be held during the year, and a regular course of training will be pursued.

An institute of this character was also held at Toledo, in October last, with very satisfactory results.

The State Association had its annual meeting at Mansfield, and many practical questions were very ably discussed. An excellent impression was left upon the Mansfield brethren, and the delegates went home full of zeal. A District Convention was held at Salem soon after, and throughout the State, with few exceptions, the fires were kindled and kept burning.

The report for the first quarter of the current year shows about one hundred conversions in the Salem Association.

The special religious interest which began in the prayer meetings of the Young Men's Christian Association of Zanesville, increased till all the churches in the city were revived and about four hundred souls were converted.

During the past winter the City of Cincinnati has been visited with a gracious outpouring of the Holy Spirit, and about two thousand persons have been hopefully converted. This revival, like the ones in Salem, Zanesville and other

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places, began in the prayer-room of the Young Men's Christian Association, and extended till it pervaded the whole city. Several new Associations have been formed, and an effort has been made to so interest them in active work as to make them permanently useful. The Day of Prayer recommended by the Portland Convention was very generally observed by our Association. The State Association will hold its next meeting, in October next, at Cincinnati.

The table appended will show the statistics.

H. P. LLOYD,

Cor. Member for Ohio.

INDIANA.

DURING the past year several Associations have been organized. My engagements during the year have been such as to prevent a general visitation of the various Associations, but I have assisted at the organization of three, viz.: in Greencastle, Peru, and Greenfield.

During the past year the revival Spirit has pervaded almost the entire State. Nearly all of the Churches have been blessed. In many, the converts are numbered by hundreds. The outpouring of the Spirit all over the State, has been so wonderful that the remark is often made "how easily sinners seem to come to Christ."

The membership of the Y. M. C. A. has been largely instrumental in carrying on this work. Here in Indianapolis, we are anticipating a great blessing from the gathering of so many active Christian workers, as will assemble here in June, and are anxiously awaiting the day of their arrival.

M. K. BARNARD,

Cor. Mem. Ex. Com. for Indiana.

MISSOURI.

PROBABLY no city in the Union needs a Young Men's Christian Association more than the City of St. Louis. Located in the very centre of the Union, young men by the hundred flock here, seeking employment; and they need just such kind of sympathy and counsel as the Association stands ready to give. Many of these young men have come to us during the past year, penniless and disheartened, but have been cheered and strengthened by kind words: and many of them have secured honorable positions through our efforts. Said one of these to us, "*you have spoken to me the first kind words I have heard since I came to your city.*" Our noon-day prayer meetings and our Saturday night meetings are well attended. During the summer months we have open-air service on Thursday evenings and Sunday afternoons, which have resulted in great good to many thousand people in St. Louis, who never enter the church. We thus carry the Gospel into our Mission Sunday School. We have gathered many destitute children.

E. S. GREENWOOD,

Cor. Mem. for Missouri.

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MICHIGAN.

NOR having replies to all the circulars sent out for information, I am able only to report that the number of Associations remains about the same as last year, with the addition of two new Associations at St. Clair and Corunna.

Our second State Convention held at Kalamazoo, in March last, was eminently practical and stimulating. We are nearing the realization of our plan of having all the Associations in the State hold their annual meetings at the same time, so that we may club together in advertising our Associations and rooms, and in the obtaining of matter for our reading-rooms. We think one-quarter of the expense might be saved in this way.

The cost of maintaining suitable rooms seems to be a prevailing source of difficulty, and added to this is the seemingly almost universal determination to get rich first, before giving much of personal time to the doing of needed Christian work.

More working members is the great want in Michigan. May the Lord of the harvest send them soon.

SILAS FARMER,
Cor. Mem. for Michigan.

WISCONSIN.

MOST of the Associations in Wisconsin are in a prosperous condition, and are doing a good and successful work.

I regret being obliged to report a few as doing nothing, and only existing in name. Earnest efforts have been made to revive and stimulate these inactive organizations, but owing to inefficient officers it has not yet been accomplished.

Many Associations report a good work done the year past among the inmates of county jails and prisons. A few months ago a precious work of grace commenced, and still continues, among the convicts in our State Prison, the direct result of the faithful efforts of some members of the Milwaukee Association.

Open-air meetings, Mission Sunday Schools, and systematic tract distribution are some of the means used by our Associations towards the accomplishment of their mission, and success has attended them.

The Fourth Annual Convention was held in Milwaukee in November last; the spirit of the Convention was excellent, and from it much good resulted.

Whole number of Associations, twelve. Membership, one thousand. Two new Associations formed during the year. Six Associations have reading-rooms, three hold daily prayer meetings, and eight monthly meetings. One employs city missionary. The Day of Prayer was observed by some of the Associations and they report good results from it. Nearly all of our Associations are in small places, where their maintenance is attended with many trying difficulties. Still the "faithful few" press on, "looking unto Jesus."

HENRY J. COWLES,
Cor. Member for Wisconsin.

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IOWA.

WE take pleasure in reporting an increased interest in our State Associational work during the past year. Some half dozen Associations have been added to the list, while in some localities the matter has been talked up, but without results. Our second State Convention, held in April, brought together about seventy-five delegates, representing, I think, twenty Associations. There are many of which I cannot speak, not having been able to get reports. I will speak, however, of several from whom reports have been received:

MARION.—50 members; principal work has been in the Sunday School and cottage prayer meetings, which have resulted in 18 conversions; sustain a weekly prayer meeting; have held social gatherings in our rooms, which yielded \$150 for our treasury.

IOWA CITY.—80 members; hold daily prayer meetings, the average attendance being 25; have sustained 60 cottage prayer meetings and a Sunday School of 150 members; have a commodious audience and reading rooms and a library of 500 volumes.

KEOKUK.—150 members; noon-day prayer meetings, sustained by a few, but kept up throughout the year with interest; our street preaching well attended; Tuesday evening prayer meetings for young converts, and several cottage prayer meetings have been sustained; a committee occupy one hour on Sabbath mornings, in distributing tracts and papers in hotels, barber shops and saloons.

DES MOINES.—Sustain morning prayer meetings; street preaching; 4 weekly cottage prayer meetings; employ a city missionary; distributed \$300 to the needy; owe no man anything; have \$200 in the treasury; 100 members.

WATERLOO.—Have Tuesday evening and Sabbath afternoon meetings; sustained a Sunday School at the depot for some time with good results. It is contemplated to erect a Chapel at the depot. A few have been converted as a direct result of the labor of our Association; membership—active, 69; associate, 82; auxiliary, 62; life, 9; expenditures about \$800 last year.

MT. VERNON.—55 members; sustain daily and 4 weekly prayer meetings; a large number converted; carry on 3 Sunday Schools with membership of 100; have lectures for the benefit of the Association.

CEDAR RAPIDS.—180 members; 7 Sunday Schools have been sustained in and about the city, with cheering results, viz., between 30 and 40 conversions; have daily and Friday evening prayer meetings; have secured new and more commodious rooms; audience room has accommodation for 200; reading room, 60; receipts during the year, \$655.

COUNCIL BLUFFS.—70 members; expenses, \$1,200; 600 volumes in library; Sunday afternoon and Friday evening prayer meetings; also a "boy's prayer meeting" that has been a decided success; can command means and social influence, but lack Christian young men.

TABOR.—Have 37 members. Work principally in Sabbath Schools, having organized ten in the last year. Have morning and Sabbath afternoon meetings. Several conversions.

MONTICELLO.—40 members. Our Mayor gives us the free use of a fine large room on the first floor of a brick block in the central part of the city. Prayer meetings Sunday afternoons.

DUBUQUE.—Sustain daily prayer meetings. In summer have eight services

on Sunday; four mission schools; open-air meetings; services in jail and at County Poor House; held union prayer meetings five weeks during the past winter, which the churches followed up, and as a result, about 150 united with them; between 40 and 50 converted in our mission meetings. At one point of our mission work a church is to be built. Intend to build two union chapels; expenses \$1,500 a year; have three literary societies and a Bible class. Central rooms; library; cottage prayer meetings. Employ a City Missionary.

DAVENPORT.—Sustain five Sunday Schools numbering 255 scholars; also lay preaching at two stations, one of which resulted in a glorious revival; Monday evening meeting source of much good to the "street boys" who throng the rooms every night; expended for relief of the poor, \$565.95; number of families visited, 142; children gathered into the Sunday School, 543; families induced to attend church, 78; backsliders reclaimed, 30.

Five Associations employ or have employed City Missionaries. Dubuque and Davenport have done so from their organization, and the results prove the wisdom of such a course. In the larger places a City Missionary, in connection with the Association, is now considered almost a necessity—not to do all the work, and thereby relieve the members, but to lead and mark out work for them; to systematize the work, and thereby reach positive results.

The matter of a State Evangelist was brought up at our late Convention, and the following was adopted:

"Resolved, That Geo. R. Ransom, of Dubuque, is hereby invited to labor as an Evangelist during the coming year; at such times and places as he shall find convenient, under the auspices of the Y. M. C. A. of the State."

The following, in reference to membership, was adopted:

"Resolved, That we deem it expedient, as a general rule, for ladies to be admitted as active members of the Y. M. C. A."

The number of Associations in the State is about thirty. Some, however, are yet quite weak, and perhaps only have a name to live. Now and then the clergy oppose the formation of Associations, yet the instances are rare. In a growing town, a short time since, where an Association exists (though not a working one), the clergy, instead of lending a helping hand and wishing God speed, voted that "its work was done, and it was no longer needed in the community." I mention this simply to show what some of our brethren have to contend with. While this is true of a few, we have in our State scores of noble hearted and earnest ministers who support our glorious work; who work with, talk and pray for us; and one of the features of our last Convention was a more cordial co-operation and a better understanding in this respect.

I estimate that there are about one thousand members connected with our different Associations. We have as yet no Association buildings.

The conversions during the year, as the direct and indirect results of our work, will not fall far short of three hundred. But who shall number the impressions made, that shall yet bring forth golden fruit to the glory of God?

The following are the officers of our State organization for the present year: *President*, F. J. Cressey, Des Moines; *Vice-Presidents*, E. F. Pomeroy, of Cedar Rapids, and W. F. Barclay, of Mt. Vernon; *Secretary*, C. T. Ingersoll, Waterloo; *Assistant Secretaries*, Amos Hiatt, Iowa City, and A. L. Adams, Marshalltown; *Treasurer*, L. McCurdy, Marion; *Executive Committee*, G. R. Ransom, Dubuque; Amos Hiatt, Iowa City; Solon H. Fidler, Davenport.

XXXIII

That God may bless us in the future more than in the past, and make us more worthy of His blessing, is the earnest prayer of your brother in Christ,

GEO. R. RANSOM,

Cor. Mem. for Iowa.

NEBRASKA.

I am compelled to say that the Omaha Association is the only one in Nebraska possessing sufficient life to attract attention. This Association is now rejoicing in the services of Mr. W. H. Woods, recently City Missionary in Peoria, an able earnest and godly man, and I trust great good will come to us from his labors.

Nebraska is but sparsely settled, towns and villages are too small to maintain Associations. Several attempts to organize the Christian young men in various places have failed. This is to be specially regretted, as there are so many young men in our midst, away from home, exposed to the wickedness of the frontier.

How to reach these and draw them tenderly to the blessed Saviour is what engages my anxieties and attention.

For this great work we want missionaries. Not until our State becomes more densely populated, when towns and villages are sufficiently large to sustain Associations, can we dispense with a missionary in Nebraska.

WM. R. BENTLEY,

Cor. Mem. Ex. Com. for Nebraska.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

THE principal agencies of our Association at present, are the daily prayer meetings, open-air effort, and Mission Sunday School work.

We hold now two daily prayer meetings, one at 12 noon, and the other between 6 and 7 P. M. The prayer room capable of holding about 150, is almost always well filled at 6 P. M., and 25 have risen for prayers on different occasions. The noonday meeting, began five months since, is not so well sustained, but we do not feel like giving it up. At least one daily prayer meeting should be sustained at the rooms of every Association of the land. In some places it may require weeks or months to establish it, but if the most suitable home is chosen, many will repair to it eventually.

During the year our efforts in the open air have met with remarkable success. On the return of the Delegates from Portland, new energy was infused, which soon resulted in the conversion of souls. Meetings were held all the summer in different parts of the city on Sabbath afternoon, and on each evening of the week. At the conclusion of the latter, a general invitation was given to attend the prayer meeting held immediately thereafter at the rooms; we have reason to hope that as many as two hundred were converted through this instrumentality, some of whom are now active workers. The brethren have inaugurated the same programme for this season.

Never before have our Mission Sunday Schools had such encouraging prospects. Through the agency of our "Canal Mission," a community once almost

abandoned now presents an aspect very different. The same is true in some degree, of schools as in other sections of the city.

Our lecture course during the past winter, has been of unusual interest. The lectures have been well attended, and we hope have attracted to the Association the favorable notice of citizens.

Our library has increased during the year by the addition of several thousand volumes belonging to the "Washington City Library," which together with a reading room well supplied with current literature of the day, attract a large number to our rooms, while special efforts have been made socially to interest and attract visitors, who do not desire to read. In this way we hope to make our rooms a favorite place of resort for the young men of the city.

There is an Association of Evangelical Christians connected with Howard University. Its purpose is to exert a Christian influence among the unconverted fellow-students, and to promote the growth in holiness of its members. The greater portion of the members occupy their time on the Lord's Day in teaching Sabbath-school classes, and in other Christian work.

L. E. SLEIGH, *Cor. Mem. for District of Columbia.*

PENNSYLVANIA.

At the time of the Portland Convention there were in our State twenty-seven Associations, many of which existed in name only. Most of them sent no report to Executive Committee for the reason they had no *Christian* work to report. The test of active membership of most of them was good moral character. Since that time some of the old Associations have changed the basis of active membership to professing Christianity. And all the new Associations (with two exceptions) have adopted the same test.

Thirty-five new Associations have been organized, two of which have hardly gotten to work; but we hope to infuse life into them or effect a re-organization before our next State Convention. Two Associations have almost suspended work, but we are now making an earnest effort to revive them, and we think we will succeed. One Association reports no devotional meetings, but we hope a little better record from it this fall. New life and activity has marked the work of our Associations during the past year, and many of them report numbers of conversions as the result. We have perhaps directed our attention too much to organizing new Associations, rather than improving the work of those already organized. We are making an effort to organize in every country town in the State, as well as in most of the other prominent towns and cities in which there are no Associations, with prospects of considerable success.

Several Associations have active committees, whose business is to organize other Associations, and they have very materially assisted us, as has also the State Executive Committee. We have also visited a large number of the old Associations, and been present at the organization of many of the new ones, as well as visiting a large number of towns for the purpose of interesting the people in our work, inducing them to organize.

A great interest is felt in the work, and we have the hearty sympathy of Christians of all denominations. We have circulated during the year almost a million pages of Association matter, over five thousand printed letters, and over a thousand written ones, have had over five hundred local notices of our work

inserted at our request in papers published in every county in the State. We have thus brought our work prominently before all classes, and we know we have the earnest sympathy of Christians of all denominations.

THOMAS K. CREE,
Cor. Member for Pennsylvania.

REPORT OF MR. WEIDENSALL.

THE field over which I have passed, with the exception of St. Louis and Illinois, was truly missionary ground.

I have traveled four thousand miles by rail, steamboat, stage and on foot.

Have organized eight new societies, re-organized others that had failed, assisted existing organizations, appointed Union Committees to look after Association work where a complete organization could not be maintained, and presented to the Christian people of every community that I visited, the object and aims of our Association.

I did not pass the smaller towns and select the larger to operate in. This would have been more agreeable, and I have no doubt but I could have reported many more Associations, had I done so. However, I wasted but little time in any place where the prospects were unfavorable.

No town in the field, assigned me, that is at all convenient to travel, has been unvisited.

It might occur to you that letter correspondence would have saved both time and money. This is true when applied to a State Corresponding Mem. Ex Com., but not when applied to a traveling agent. It is an easy matter to write letters, but to await answers takes more time than would be requisite to visit the towns themselves. Then, too, one half day's intercourse with the Christian people of any place is worth more than many letters.

To be more specific, my instructions were to give Kansas a thorough canvass, and then visit the more important towns in Missouri.

Accordingly, I entered Kansas first, visited Atchison, and found the Association there in a languishing condition, but succeeded in reanimating it. Its members again took hold with a fair promise of success, but after three or four months relapsed into inactivity, from what cause I do not know.

By request I visited Grasshopper Falls, a small town south-west of Atchison, and interested all the churches in the Association work. They merged all their prayer meetings into a common one, and appointed various committees to carry on general Christian work.

Passed over the whole length of the Central Branch U. P. R.R., but found no towns large enough to require attention. Returned by way of Atchison to Leavenworth, the metropolis of Kansas. Soon learned the failure of the Christian Association (not Y. M. C. A.), which was in existence when I passed through that city the spring previous.

Inquired the feasibility of organizing a Y. M. C. A. Received but little encouragement from many that were connected with the former Association. Nevertheless, I could not think of leaving that large place without making a worthy attempt. Secured eighteen or twenty names, but six of whom reported at the first meeting, yet these resolved themselves into an Association, and

with a pledge upon their lips determined that they would stand by it, trusting that with the help of the Lord they would succeed. The membership since that time has run up to forty.

Leavenworth is a large place, but its Christian people have much to contend with. It is not proportionally as religious as many other towns in the West. Considering the discouragements which have attended union enterprises in that city, the present Association has reason to rejoice that they have maintained their existence.

Dr. J. W. Baker, of Leavenworth, on my recommendation, was appointed Corresponding Member of the Executive Committee for the State of Kansas. Having left the State after his appointment, William Dill, Esq., of the same place, was subsequently appointed in his stead.

Went thence to Lawrence, on the Kansas Pacific R.R. The daily prayer-meeting that was held in the Library Association room when I called there before was discontinued, hence there was nothing in the way of my work. Called upon the ministers; received their hearty co-operation, and obtained a respectable list of laymen. First meeting was well attended, in which all the preliminary steps to effect an organization were taken. I gave them all the advice I could; furnished them necessary documents, and left them to perfect the organization, which was promptly done at an adjourned meeting.

At a subsequent visit to Lawrence, I learned that the Association had maintained Sunday evening meetings in a large hall, which were usually attended by from three to six hundred people. They also began when I was there a series of meetings to be held every evening of the week. Funds were being raised to build a house in common with the Library Association, to subserve both interests.

I next visited Topeka, capital of the State, where a Y. M. C. A. was in operation when I stopped there last year. Although they ceased to hold their meetings, they possessed a neatly furnished hall, and there were those who longed for a revival of the Association, which I was instrumental in effecting.

The great difficulty in the way was the failure, in the first place, to take the highest Christian grounds as a test for active membership. Means were then taken to improve the Constitution in that and other respects.

At Manhattan and Fort Scott, I presented the claims of the Association to meetings called for that purpose; gave them documents, and left those interested to decide in subsequent meetings what they could do.

At Emporia, on the southern branch U. P. R.R., I found many who would have gone into an organization, but there were five or six leading men, who had belonged formerly to Eastern Associations, that advised me to defer the attempt one year. By that time, they argued, that all who would join it now would then be better prepared to maintain such an institution, and that the ordinary growth of the town would afford them more material and wealth.

When I considered that this border town of twenty-five hundred inhabitants would not suffer the presence of a drinking or gambling saloon, and not even a bar in its first hotel, I had faith in the advice of its best Christian men, and left the matter with them.

All that the Y. M. C. A. of Kansas have done for the last two years, with the exception of the first year in Topeka, is the result of this mission.

I then entered Missouri, attended the monthly meetings of the Kansas City Association, and by request participated in maturing plans for the great work

before them. Will here acknowledge the Christian courtesy I received at the hands of the members of this Association, and especially of its President, Mr. Ferguson.

Soon after I went to Independence, a beautiful town nine miles eastward, on the Missouri Pacific R.R. Met representatives from all the Evangelical denominations, that earnestly advocated the establishment of an Association in their midst. Several meetings were held while I remained with them, in which a Constitution was adopted, but the officers were chosen at a subsequent meeting after I left them.

Took the train for Holden, a railroad town of two thousand inhabitants, in which I found a goodly number of God-fearing men who were anxious to do general Christian work. I rather discouraged them from entering into a regular Association, but advised them to select an executive committee from the several Evangelical churches to devise the best ways and means of furthering the desired work, until they saw their way clear to secure a more perfect organization. My advice was heeded. But when I was in Southern Illinois they formed a complete organization, opened a reading-room, sent for Mr. Wells, of St. Louis, who went up; had a good time with them, and added twenty-five members to their list.

Switched off the Pacific Railroad about twenty-five miles to Booneville, on the Missouri River, where an Association with at least one hundred dollars in the treasury ceased to exist. This apparent want of interest was inexplicable to me, until I was informed that religion was made a secondary matter. Hence I inferred that Christian workers, and not money, made effective Associations.

At my suggestion a joint committee was appointed by the various Churches to take charge of all Association work, after I learned that it was useless to attempt a reconstruction of the old institution.

The Association at Jefferson City was made up of a double element—English and German. The English portion of the society having disbanded, the German element rose up a distinct institution from the dissolution. Quite as many young Germans now belong to the latter Association as there were of both languages represented in the former. This fact gave me encouragement that I could accomplish greater things among the Germans.

Stopped at several places between Jefferson City and St. Louis, but I was unable to do anything of importance.

Mr. Wells, of St. Louis, remarked to me that there was a great work for me in that city, and that I could do more there than in any other part of the State. I did not differ with him, but told him that we must both write to the Committee, and ascertain whether they would allow me to attempt the organization of a German Association in St. Louis.

In the meantime I took passage on a Mississippi River boat for Cairo. Ascertained from a fellow-passenger that there was a fair prospect of doing something at that point. A few days sufficed to acquaint me with the situation. At a called meeting it was unanimously resolved to begin the work of organizing. Accordingly a committee was appointed to draft a Constitution, with whom I labored the next night until twelve o'clock, to perfect the work committed to them.

Started northward over the Illinois Central Railroad to Carbondale. Since that time I have had a very favorable report from the Cairo Association, also a printed copy of their Constitution. Cairo is a most excellent field for an Asso-

ciation, and I trust the Lord will give them grace to maintain what they began so favorably.

At Carbondale I experienced but little difficulty in establishing a Society, not that the place was so large, but the Association had friends there. It is a railroad town, and is the site of one of the Illinois State Normal Schools. At the request of the superintendent of the Grand Tower Iron Company, I visited Grand Tower. There was no opportunity whilst I was there to hold a public meeting; however, I visited individually all who wanted to work for the Saviour, and obtained their assent to appointing a Board of Managers and operate with them in the Christian work so much needed in that locality.

After stopping at Centralia and Vandalia on the Illinois Central R. R., without accomplishing anything, I returned to St. Louis, where a letter from the Committee was awaiting my arrival, with instructions to work among the Germans of St. Louis, provided there was a prospect of success; that I might organize an independent society or even a branch, but I could not be expected to work any length of time for any existing Association.

I began the work among the Germans very cautiously, that I might get a correct knowledge of their true situation. Unlike the English, the German churches have associated with them large parochial schools, in each of which there is a daily attendance of from two to six hundred pupils. At the age of fourteen all are confirmed. The Sunday Schools are conducted on the lecture system, which affords very little Christian work for the younger members of the church. This fact tends rather to scatter than bind these young people together. At the same time, however, they pay greater deference to the minister and older members of the church, than the same class among the English do.

I found in existence several Associations that met for the purpose of singing and mutual improvement. These meetings were always opened and closed with prayer. Fortunately I was acquainted with a number of good men, who were personally known to the ministers and leading men of the Germans among whom I labored. These references secured for me their confidence. The field was now opened up, and it devolved upon me to propose a plan of work that would effect the most good.

I could not ask them to disband those organizations which had already cost them so much labor, to enter into a common Association for several reasons. They were not prepared financially to secure a suitable room in a good locality, for a general Association; and then their churches were so distant from each other that scarcely one-third of those interested could avail themselves of the benefit of a common meeting-place.

I preferred to make use of the means already provided to carry forward the work to be done. There were commodious school rooms attached to all the German churches, which could be obtained free of cost for the general purposes of an Association. Then, too, in this way the co-operation of the minister and teachers of each individual church could be secured, as they would be mutually interested in the welfare of their young people.

I visited the Associations already organized, urged them not only to continue what they had commenced, but to extend their labors to a broader field of Christian usefulness.

In due time I called a general meeting in one of the more central churches, which was largely attended, and submitted to them the following plan:

To establish as soon as possible a branch Association in every German Evangelical Church in the city. And in order to carry forward this undertaking more effectually, that a common Board of Directors should be appointed, to consist of two or more members from each existing organization, and one member from every German Evangelical Church in the city that proposed to form a branch society. That this Board should choose its own officers, have the general supervision of the branch Associations, hold its meetings at least once a month, correspond with the leading Associations throughout the world, especially the German—and in other ways acquaint themselves with the Association work, that they might advise understandingly those over whom they were placed.

After considerable debate and explanation, the proposition was unanimously adopted. Under the new order of things two branch Associations have been formed, so that there are at present four, if not five, organizations represented in the General Board of Management.

Our Associations will readily appreciate the importance of these young Germans; many of them are substantial Christians. All are well versed in the English and German languages, which together with their proverbial honesty, eminently fits them for responsible positions, and they will prove the most efficient agents to Americanize the vast multitudes of Germans immigrating into our country.

During my stay in St. Louis I frequented the meetings of the English Association, was kindly treated by its members, and received substantial aid in furthering my work, from Rev. S. Wells, its President.

Having finished up my work in St. Louis, I passed up the Mississippi River to Alton, where there were persons disposed to do Association work. However I deemed it inexpedient to attempt at that time an organization. Several months previous a Committee of three from each of the churches was appointed to do special work in the cause of Temperance. I called the Committee together and requested them to take in hand Y. M. C. A. work until it would be more especially provided for. They heartily assented to do so.

Went thence to Jacksonville, Ill., where, as I was previously informed by Mr. Wells, I found no Association. I wondered why such was the case, for it is the most beautiful place I ever saw; numbers ten thousand inhabitants; is the depot of the Illinois State Educational and benevolent institutions, etc., and is possessed of the most energetic Sunday School and other Christian workers.

With but little effort a list of respectable names was obtained to commence an Association. On the strength of this a meeting was called, and the proper committees appointed to prepare papers for permanent organization. Satisfied that they were fully competent to complete what was so favorably commenced, I left them and took the train for Quincy, on the Mississippi River.

A sense of gratitude compels me to acknowledge a reduction of traveling expenses in behalf of the Association, on the Council Bluffs and St. Joseph, Central Branch U. P., Kansas Pacific, Southern Branch U. P., Missouri River and Fort Scott, Missouri Pacific, Grand Tower and Toledo W. & W. Railroads; also on the St. Louis and Memphis, St. Louis & Keokuk, and St. Louis & North Line Packets.

Trusting that our dear Lord will accept the results of our humble mission and render the organizations that have been effected lasting gateways into the Eternal Kingdom,

ROBT. WEIDENSALL, *Agt. Y. M. C. A.*

VISIT TO THE SOUTHERN CITIES.

We hereby submit a report of our visit to the principal Southern cities.

We have visited the following places: Mobile, Selma and Montgomery, in Alabama; New Orleans, La.; Jackson and Meriden, in Mississippi; Savannah, Augusta, Macon and Atlanta, in Georgia; Jacksonville, Florida; Charleston, S. C.; Wilmington and Goldsboro, N. C.; Petersburg, Richmond and Lynchburg, in Va.; Bristol and Knoxville, in Tenn.

We found but three or four Associations in existence, and these only maintained by hard struggles. We heard of a few others in some of the Colleges and one at Memphis; but for want of time were unable to visit it. We made no effort to organize Associations ourselves, but sought to lay before leading laymen and pastors, the power and practical advantages growing out of united effort in the cause of our common Lord, leaving it with them to take such steps as their best judgment might direct. In nearly every instance, a committee of prominent laymen was appointed to take the matter into consideration, with power after consultation with the parties, to call a public meeting and present a Constitution and By-Laws for an organization.

Preliminary to this work there were many prejudices to disarm; many misunderstandings to remove. To do this required time, and an earnest presentation of truth and the aims and purposes of our work.

We are glad to report that everywhere we were kindly received, and the interchange of views always resulted in grateful thanks for the visit. Many warm personal friendships were established. We feel that good has been done, even if no other result had followed.

In almost every city we found more or less religious interest, which seemed to prepare the way for us, and pastors were invited. Where there had been no such union of feeling and effort, our visit in bringing them together had a good effect; and we were told our visit had been a blessing in that result.

Wherever we held public meetings we had eager listeners, and sometimes crowded houses; and we regretted that the time did not allow us to follow up the good impressions made.

Our visit and the interest taken by the Convention in a revival of the Association work, seemed such an encouragement to our brethren; their thanks for our visit were so hearty, and requests for its repetition so frequent, that the impression has deepened upon our minds of the urgent need that the work thus begun should be continued, and those places be re-visited by judicious, earnest representatives, who can speak from personal experience of the benefits of the Associations. The work of re-organization must of necessity be attended by many difficulties; but strengthened by the prayers, and encouraged by the sympathies and fellowship of Northern brethren, regardless of political differences, we believe the work will go on.

And we trust many more may follow in our footsteps, and may meet with the same kindness and cordiality that was so comforting to us, and which was an evidence to us that the Master approved of the work.

At Richmond they have the use of a large library of 1,600 volumes, the property of the Historical Society. The ladies have raised, by a fair, \$1,500, which is to be spent on new books, and they are to have the use of one of the rooms of that Society. No religious work is being done in the Association, but it is in excel-

lent hands, and we trust that it will be entirely changed through the efforts of the earnest Christian men who have now the charge of it.

In Charleston, S. C., the Association is under a cloud of debt, and yet steps are now being made to resuscitate it. A few faithful men are working there in a mission school and prayer meeting, and a number of souls have been converted. We met, also, the President of the Colored Association, and he speaks very encouragingly of the work among his people. He is in correspondence with others in the interior, and has personally visited some places, and he reports Colored Associations in Columbia, Abbeville, Yorkville, Louisville, St. Mathews, Winsboro and Chester, all doing well; a deep spiritual work being done, and souls brought to Jesus. We gave him what encouragement we could, and urged upon the Association at Charleston, the importance of aiding them as far as they could in this work.

At Petersburg we found a deep desire for an Association, and we think one will be formed. At Goldsboro' is an Association only two months old, and in good hands. They have no room, but have prayer meetings, Sunday schools, &c. At Savannah, Ga., steps have been taken to start an Association, and we hope to see delegates at the Indianapolis Convention. Blessed results had followed the work in the old Association, but, like all other places, the war had broken it up. In Jacksonville, Fla., the pastors and laymen are very anxious to have an Association, and the committee will probably send delegates to Indianapolis. They have some furniture still belonging to the old Association.

At Augusta, Ga., the pastors thought it a bad time to start, and advised a postponement. We deferred to their wishes. At Raleigh, N. C., we expected to have met the brethren, but a place could not be had, and we did not go there although the President of the Association invited us to confer with him personally. At Macon we found the Spirit of the Lord had been before us. There we had much encouragement, and the committee in charge of the matter, we trust, will be able to organize an Association. At Atlanta, Ga., we had at first some discouragement, but before we left every difficulty seemed to vanish, and those who had seemed indifferent were friendly. In Knoxville, Tenn., they have made two attempts and failed, but are trying again with good prospect of success. They are very anxious for another visit. The same may be said of Lynchburg, Va. In Bristol, Tenn., they have organized an Association in the College. In New Orleans an Association has been started since our visit, and the very best men in the city are connected with it, and begin in prayer. May it have the prayers of all that it may be a means of blessing to that important city.

In Mobile they have organized, under the able Presidency of Maj. Price, and bids fair to be a flourishing Association.

At Jackson, Meriden and Salem, the cause was taken up by warm-hearted, earnest Christian men, and committees were appointed; we hope soon to hear they are in working order.

At Montgomery an Association had been re-organized, but was in feeble condition. A meeting was held and conferences had with its members, and we trust the visit was not in vain.

WM. F. LEE,
GEO. A. HALL.

New-York, 19 June, 1870.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES AND BRITISH PROVINCES.

COMPILED FROM THE OFFICIAL REPORTS RECEIVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—1899-70.

NAME.—ADDRESS.	PRESIDENT.	CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.	No. of Members.	Current Expenses last year.	Reading Room.	No. of Volumes in Library.	Estimated Value of Library.	Value of Building.	Amount of Debt on it.	Building Fund.	Sermons to Young Men.	Prayer Meetings at Rooms.	Bible Class.	Other Religious Meetings.	Was Day of Prayer observed in Nov.	Literary Class.	Free Classes.	Direct Results of last year's work.	Special Religious Interest.	No. of Converts during past year.
Albany, N. Y.	Edward Savage.	Robert C. Pruyn.	324	\$1,000	Yes	1,184		None		None	Yes	Daily	No	Yes	Yes	No	No			
Adrian, Mich.	John Webster.	J. W. McGregor.	121	1,600	Yes	300	\$500			None	Yes	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No			
Akron, Ohio.	Jacob A. Kohler.	Lewis Evans.	129	1,200	Yes					None	Yes	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No			
Atlantic City, N. J.	J. Henry Hayes.	A. P. Willie.	45	150	Yes					None	6	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Atlantic Minn. S.	Thos. McPherson.	A. R. Leslie.	36	800	Yes					None		Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No			
Allagan, Mich.	John G. Nordrup.	Henry Camp.	50							None		Weekly	No	Yes	No	No	No			1
Alliance, Ohio.	E. P. Goncher.	Geo. W. Jance.	59	220	Yes	None				None	Yes	Weekly	No	Yes	No	No	No			
Altoona, Pa.	John Carrie.									None	52	a week	No	Yes	No	No	No			
Amherst, Ohio.	A. C. Hitchcock.	D. Cady.	150		No		900			None	None	a week	No	Yes	No	No	No			
Amsterdam, N. Y.	Edward Eldred.	Chas. H. Pine.	100		Yes	120				None	None	Daily	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No		Yes	
Asaonia, Conn.	D. Bartholomew.	T. M. King.	40		Yes					None	None	Daily	Yes	S. S.	Yes	Yes	Yes			10
Argonish, N. S.	F. S. Cunningham.	A. D. Strong.	37	135	Yes					None	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Ashland, Ohio.	J. Q. Stoner.	L. E. Savory.	58	400	Yes					None	1	a week	No	Yes	Yes	No	No			8
Astoria, Mass.	Jas. K. Stebbins.	Byron C. Smith.	215	80	Yes	457	100			None	None	a week	No	Yes	Yes	No	No			6
Auburn, N. Y.	Richd. S. Holmes.	H. M. Jackson.	93	700	Yes	1,400	2,000			None	None	a week	No	Yes	Yes	No	No		Yes	36
Auburn, Me.	J. R. Learned.	Eugene Allen.	50	160	Yes					None	Yes	Daily	Yes	S. S.	Yes	Yes	Yes			30
Augusta, Me.	David Carrill.	Charles Tholey.	100							None	None	Daily	Yes	S. S.	Yes	Yes	Yes			4
Aurora, Ind.	E. S. Clark.	W. W. Glass.	60	4,000	Yes	2,200	2,000			None	None	a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			15
Baltimore, Md.	S. W. J. Hopper.	B. F. Lee.	175	787	Yes					None	4	a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Baltimore, (Central), Md.	Wm. A. Tuttle.	T. N. Huntington.	100	300	No	None	None			None	None	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Bath, Me.	A. C. Palmer.	L. D. Williams.	95	400	Yes	None				None	None	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No			
Belleville, Ohio.	James A. Beaver.	S. D. Gray.	436	720	Yes	1,550	5,000	25,000		200	Yes	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No			
Bellefonte, Pa.	C. W. Krause.	H. T. Chandler.	95	300	No	None	None			Small	No	2 a week	No	Yes	Yes	No	No			
Bethlehem, Pa.	Daniel Pond.	B. N. Towle.	923	1,640	Yes	200	300			60,000	20	3 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Bridford, Me.	C. E. Miller.	John C. Cook, Jr.	200	4,000	No	300				None	None	3 a day	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Boston Highlands, Mass.	Moses W. Pond.	L. P. Rowland, Jr.	115	200	No	300				None	None	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			30
Brandon, Vt.	Edgar J. Ellen.	W. H. Sanderson.	71	500	Yes	None	600			None	None	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No			
Brattleboro, Vt.	O. R. Douglass.	Fred. W. Kuech.	71	200	Yes	None				None	None	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No			
Bridgeport, Conn.	Dabney Carr.	Wm. A. Fiskirk.	112	400	Yes	None				None	None	Dy & weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No			

Location	Name	Age	Yes	200	1,000	None	No	Weekly	S.S.	Yes	No	3
Binghamton, N. Y.	C. A. Whitney...	65	Yes	300	1,000	None	No	Weekly	No	Yes	No	3
Bridgeton, N. J.	James S. Reeves...	180	Yes	1,000	3,000	None	No	Monthly	No	Yes	No	3
Bristol, R. I.	Wm. H. Spooner...	171	Yes	875	1,000	None	No	5 a week	No	Yes	No	3
Bristol, Conn.	A. J. Sessions...	180	Yes	100	100	None	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	5
Brooklyn, E. D. N. Y.	J. B. Thomas...	500	Yes	350	15,000	None	No	2 a week	No	Yes	Yes	5
Brooklyn, N. Y.	G. W. Hobard...	3000	Yes	4,878	15,000	None	No	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	5
Brussels, Mo.	Charles E. Eaton...	37	No	351	1,500	None	No	Daily	Yes	Yes	No	5
Brunswick, N. Y.	John Furbish...	351	Yes	4,000	1,500	None	No	Weekly	Yes	Yes	No	5
Buffalo, N. Y.	J. G. Jenkins...	100	Yes	7	1,500	None	No	Weekly	No	No	No	5
Burlington, Vt.	P. K. Noye...	135	Yes	3,401	1,500	None	No	Weekly	Yes	Yes	No	5
Cambridge, Ind.	Wm. B. Leonard...	90	No	None	1,500	None	No	Weekly	No	No	No	5
Cambridge, Ind.	C. P. Parsons...	85	Yes	None	1,500	None	No	Weekly	Yes	Yes	No	5
Camden, N. Y.	B. F. Lamb...	14	Yes	None	1,500	None	No	Weekly	No	No	No	5
Camden, N. Y.	W. S. Ballenger...	73	Yes	None	1,500	None	No	Weekly	Yes	Yes	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	A. M. Beckwith...	30	Yes	2,000	2,500	None	No	Weekly	Yes	Yes	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	D. H. Roshach...	128	Yes	8	2,500	None	No	Weekly	Yes	Yes	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	Wm. McKinley...	19	Yes	32	2,500	None	No	Weekly	Yes	Yes	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	Angus McKean...	168	Yes	315	2,500	None	No	Weekly	Yes	Yes	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	E. F. Pomeroy...	53	Yes	315	2,500	None	No	Weekly	Yes	Yes	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	H. McNeil...	150	Yes	315	2,500	None	No	Weekly	Yes	Yes	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	Wm. E. Dawson...	161	Yes	315	2,500	None	No	Weekly	Yes	Yes	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	Charles E. L. W....	140	Yes	315	2,500	None	No	Weekly	Yes	Yes	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	Yrigly G. Tibbels...	41	Yes	12	2,500	None	No	Weekly	Yes	Yes	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	Wm. W. Thomas...	22	Yes	12	2,500	None	No	Weekly	Yes	Yes	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	George Monteth...	290	Yes	100	18 Bids	None	No	Weekly	Yes	No	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	Jas. McEl. Walsh...	35	Yes	100	18 Bids	None	No	Weekly	Yes	No	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	Alfred Blanchard...	446	Yes	100	18 Bids	None	No	Weekly	Yes	No	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	Moses R. Emerson...	70	Yes	100	18 Bids	None	No	Weekly	Yes	No	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	C. E. Bolton...	404	Yes	100	18 Bids	None	No	Weekly	Yes	No	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	George F. Orr...	20	Yes	100	18 Bids	None	No	Weekly	Yes	No	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	Erasmus Burnham...	95	Yes	100	18 Bids	None	No	Weekly	Yes	No	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	E. Z. Hays...	105	Yes	100	18 Bids	None	No	Weekly	Yes	No	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	F. E. Burnette...	147	Yes	100	18 Bids	None	No	Weekly	Yes	No	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	Woodward A. W. L...	33	Yes	100	18 Bids	None	No	Weekly	Yes	No	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	C. M. Moore...	55	Yes	100	18 Bids	None	No	Weekly	Yes	No	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	W. S. Russell...	55	Yes	100	18 Bids	None	No	Weekly	Yes	No	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	L. S. Abell...	63	Yes	100	18 Bids	None	No	Weekly	Yes	No	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	John M. Chase...	13	Yes	100	18 Bids	None	No	Weekly	Yes	No	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	John F. Benton...	216	Yes	100	18 Bids	None	No	Weekly	Yes	No	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	Harry Hayward...	96	Yes	100	18 Bids	None	No	Weekly	Yes	No	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	Ellis Fawcett...	70	Yes	100	18 Bids	None	No	Weekly	Yes	No	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	E. Morgan Wood...	480	Yes	100	18 Bids	None	No	Weekly	Yes	No	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	James Corbett...	1	Yes	100	18 Bids	None	No	Weekly	Yes	No	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	James L. Smith...	350	Yes	100	18 Bids	None	No	Weekly	Yes	No	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	W. K. McKibben...	350	Yes	100	18 Bids	None	No	Weekly	Yes	No	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	J. F. Henderson...	1	Yes	100	18 Bids	None	No	Weekly	Yes	No	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	William Stroud...	139	Yes	100	18 Bids	None	No	Weekly	Yes	No	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	A. J. Van Duzer...	32	No	100	18 Bids	None	No	Weekly	Yes	No	No	5
Canandaigua, N. Y.	Robert Stewart...	32	No	100	18 Bids	None	No	Weekly	Yes	No	No	5

ABSTRACT OF THE OFFICIAL REPORTS RECEIVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 1899-70.

NAME-ADDRESS.	PRESIDENT.	CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.	No. of Members.	Current Expenses last year.	Reading Room.	No. of Volumes in Library.	Estimated Value of Library.	Value of Building.	Amount of Debt on it.	Building Fund.	Sermons to Young Men.	Prayer Meetings at Rooms.	Bible Class.	Other Religious Meetings.	Was Day of Prayer observed to Nov.	Literary Class.	Free Classes.	Direct Results of last year's work.	Special Religious Interest.	No. of Converts during past year.
East Boston, Mass.	Frank Wood.	J. H. S. Pearson.	350	\$1,000	Yes	700	\$800				Yes	2 a week	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			15
East Brooklyn, N. Y.	Edg. A. Hinchins	Henry F. Rollins	153	1,116	Yes	700					Yes	Monthly	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
East Cambridge, Mass.	Wm. B. Savage	Ed. Hutchinson	60		No						Yes	3 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Good		
Boston, Pa.	James L. Fisher	Reuben J. Coffin	102	1,300	Yes	300	150				Yes	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
East Liverpool, Ohio	J. M. George.	W. L. Thompson	49		Yes						Yes	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
East Whiteland, Pa.	East Thomas	James Allen	28	375	No	105	180				Yes	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Easton, N. Y.	John G. Thomas	E. C. Billings	73		Yes						Yes	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Elston Rapids, Mich.	Joel Tuckerman	G. A. Armstrong	20	3,100	200	4,000					Yes	11 & weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Elmira, N. Y.	E. S. Palmer	James H. Sly	206	300	Yes	700					Yes	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			12
Elizabeth, N. J.	F. J. Carlton	A. A. Ward	82	600							Yes	2 Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			5
Elwyn, Pa.	F. J. Nelson	A. G. Upton	315	2,200	Yes	5,000	12,000				Yes	Dy & 2 a w.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Elvo, Pa.	K. J. Clark	H. S. Jones	150	400	Yes	50	25 100				Yes	2 Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
East Saginaw, Mich.	H. L. Harrison	Harvey Judth.	150	350	Yes	210	400				Yes	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No			No
East Weymouth, Mass.	Wm. F. Hill	Edwin Howard	35	325	Yes	None	10				Yes	12 a week	Yes	Yes	No	No	No			
Exeter, N. H.	Noah Hooper	Charles D. Bell	34	35	Yes						Yes	2 Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Fair Haven, Vt.	Charles Howard	G. D. Spencer	51		Yes						Yes	2 Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No			
Fairlee, Vt.	Frank Stratton	Frank M. Bailey	20		No						Yes	2 Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No			
Fall River, Mass.	John Straton	J. C. Eddy	225	3,375	Yes	None					Yes	2 Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No			
Fitchburg, Mass.	E. C. Nason	J. C. Eddy	167	900	Yes	None					Yes	2 Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No			
Frankfort, N. H.	J. C. Moulton	G. S. Houghton	167	900	Yes	None					Yes	2 Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No			
Fulton, N. Y.	N. R. Marden	J. F. Fitts	46		Yes	None					Yes	2 Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No			4
Francestown, N. H.	W. J. Towneaud	H. B. Chamberlin	259	1,250	Yes	None					Yes	2 Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No			
Food du Lac, Wis.	C. T. Pettibone	H. H. Libby	75	75	Yes	1,000	1,000				Yes	2 Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No			20
Farmington, N. H.	E. W. Ricker	R. W. Ricker	95	150	Yes	None					Yes	2 Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No			
Gait, Ontario, Can.	August Polson	R. E. Beath	61	205	Yes	None					Yes	2 Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No			3
Gardiner, Me.	C. T. Pettibone	Chas. F. Parsons	78	125	Yes	None					Yes	2 Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No			
Gayborough, N. S.	Isaac S. Mitchell	Wm. G. Hadley	13	37	Yes	None					Yes	2 Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No			
Geneva, Ohio	H. A. Delano	Charles Falcott	70	66	Yes	50	125				Yes	2 a day	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No			30
Gettysburgh, Pa.	H. K. Porter	Thomas K. Croo	718	5,000	Yes	300	300				Yes	2 a month	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No			
Giddenville, N. S.	John McLean	James A. Fraser	41	25	No	None					Yes	2 a month	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No			11
Gorham, Me.	Stephen Hinkley	Sam'l H. Warren	58	35	No	None					Yes	2 a month	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No			
Goshen, N. Y.	Chas. E. Merriam	F. A. Merriam	87	404	Yes	550	550				Yes	2 a month	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No			
Goshen, Conn.	Alon Sanford	Enos B. Pratt	44		Yes	None					Yes	2 a month	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No			3
Grand Rapids, Mich.	Mervan S. Crosby	J. Morgan Smith	150	1,000	Yes	100	300	None			Yes	2 a month	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No			

Great Falls, N. H.	Henry Swazy	Geo. S. Bates	100	\$300	Yes	None	None	None	No	19 Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	.....	.....	.....
Greenfield, Mass.	D. L. Summils	Geo. Burford, Jr.	98	300	Yes	None	None	None	No	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	.....	.....	.....
Green Hill, N. S.	James McKenney	Laurence Miller	25	1,800	Yes	2,300	None	Small	No	2 a month	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	.....	.....
Haithe, Canada	John B. Morrow	Arch. Patterson	330	1,311	Yes	350	None	5	No	3 Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	.....	.....
Hamilton, Ontario, Canada	A. J. Mackenzie	Thomas Dale	215	135	Yes	350	None	.....	No	2 Daily	No	Yes	No	.....	.....	.....
Harvey, Pa.	John J. Bingley	M. O. Smith	61	689	Yes	3,000	.....	.....	No	Weekly	Yes	Yes	No	.....	.....	.....
Harrisburg, Pa.	S. R. DeWitt	S. J. M. McCarroll	300	18	No	.....	None	.....	No	4 Weekly	No	Yes	No	.....	.....	.....
Harmon, Ohio	Joseph Saunders	D. H. Hensley	41	18	No	.....	.....	.....	No	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	.....	.....
Hartsville, Pa.	J. W. Brown	J. W. Brown	35	18	No	.....	.....	.....	No	15 Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	.....	.....
Hartsville, Pa.	G. W. Dickenson	Alfred H. Graves	69	300	Yes	90	60	.....	No	2 Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	.....	.....
Haverhill, Mass.	G. W. Dunson	John W. Ellis	215	576	Yes	90	.....	.....	No	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	.....	.....
Hillsboro, Ohio	Erskine Carson	J. A. Hall	161	50	No	.....	.....	.....	No	2 Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	.....	.....	.....
Holton, Mo.	C. W. Morrison	C. W. Morris	75	84	No	.....	.....	.....	No	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	.....	.....
Holton, Mass.	J. F. Mott	J. H. Gleason	16	100	No	.....	.....	.....	No	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	.....	.....
Holliston, Mass.	Jas. F. Christman	Niram Lake	41	325	Yes	965	1,000	.....	No	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	.....	.....	.....
Hopkinton, Mass.	John C. Adams	R. Stearns Cook	108	325	Yes	.....	.....	.....	No	Weekly	No	Yes	No	.....	.....	.....
Hopkinton, Mass.	Amos Andrews	A. E. Pomeroy	112	325	Yes	.....	.....	.....	No	Weekly	No	Yes	No	.....	.....	.....
Hudson, Mich.	Ed. M. Hulburd	C. E. Stowell	30	1,048	Yes	1,900	2,500	.....	No	Dy & w/ky	No	Yes	No	.....	.....	.....
Hudson, N. Y.	Isaac Mull	Fulton Paul	120	325	Yes	.....	.....	.....	No	6 Daily	No	Yes	No	.....	.....	.....
Huntsborough, Ohio	B. Armstrong	Syl Clapp	30	450	Yes	1,500	.....	.....	No	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	.....	.....
Huntingdon, Pa.	R. R. Wheeling	Hugh Landsey	324	450	Yes	.....	.....	.....	No	Not regular	No	Yes	No	.....	.....	.....
Indianapolis, Ind.	John W. Ray	J. H. Brandt	60	450	Yes	.....	.....	.....	No	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	.....	.....
Ionia, Mich.	Josh. Hudson	G. F. D. Wilson	60	450	Yes	.....	.....	.....	No	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	.....	.....
Ironton	J. H. Young	H. C. Hirsch	310	600	Yes	.....	.....	.....	No	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	.....	.....
Jackson, Mich.	David W. Smith	James Gould	100	25	No	.....	.....	.....	No	Not regular	No	Yes	No	.....	.....	.....
Jacksonville, Wis.	E. S. Barrows	Frank Lawrence	36	2,727	Yes	115	.....	.....	No	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	.....	.....
Jeffersonville, Ind.	R. A. Johnson	F. A. Seymour	840	137	Yes	.....	.....	.....	No	2 a month	No	Yes	No	.....	.....	.....
Jersey City, N. J.	Hy. W. Baxton	John M. Coyne	49	100	335	Yes	1,000	.....	No	2 a week	No	Yes	Yes	.....	.....	.....
Johannestown, Pa.	Henry West	Henry Hitzak	137	642	Yes	600	.....	.....	No	Monthly	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	.....	.....
Kalamazoo, Mich.	Henry C. Briggs	J. K. Wagner	100	335	Yes	1,000	.....	.....	No	2 Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	.....	.....
Kansas City, Mo.	D. A. Williams	Frank Thine	100	335	Yes	1,000	.....	.....	No	2 Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	.....	.....
Kentonia, Mo.	F. W. Williams	A. H. C. Jewett	321	642	Yes	600	.....	.....	No	2 Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	.....	.....
Lafayette, Ind.	Lavinia Fallow	E. H. May	74	5	No	.....	.....	.....	No	2 Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	.....	.....
Lancaster, Pa.	D. S. Park	A. F. Shickler	127	35	No	.....	.....	.....	No	3 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	.....	.....
Lancaster, Pa.	A. W. Mastman	Milton Stokes	175	1,681	Yes	250	.....	.....	No	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	.....	.....
Lancaster, Mass.	Wm. F. Holman	A. M. Stone	175	1,681	Yes	250	.....	.....	No	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	.....	.....
Leominster, Mass.	Robert Burr	Chas. S. Broughton	340	1,681	Yes	250	.....	.....	No	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	.....	.....
Lexington, Me.	G. W. Garcelon	Fred. B. Sands	56	100	Yes	.....	.....	.....	No	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	.....	.....
Lexington, Ohio	J. W. Kirtch	C. H. Beckwith	85	154	Yes	.....	.....	.....	No	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	.....	.....
Lockland, Ohio	Chas. E. Howell	Chas. E. Howell	154	154	Yes	.....	.....	.....	No	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	.....	.....
Lockport, N. Y.	Asahel B. Evans	Joseph A. Ward	812	1,993	Yes	5,800	325	.....	No	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	.....	.....
Louisville, Ky.	J. Edw. Hardy	Harry C. Warren	334	1,013	Yes	352	500	.....	No	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	.....	.....
Lowell, Mass.	Wm. H. Sherman	Geo. E. Leverage	68	10	No	.....	.....	.....	No	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	.....	.....
Lucas, Ohio	Jacob Letter	Jer. Jones	900	1,013	Yes	352	500	.....	No	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	.....	.....	.....
Lynn, Mass.	Jabez Woods	Howard L. Porter	72	175	Yes	No	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes
Malone, N. Y.	Edwin J. Olney	M. S. Farnsworth	72	175	Yes	No	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes

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NAME.—ADDRESS.	PRESIDENT.	CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.	No. of Members.	Current Expenses last year.	Reading Room.	No. of Volumes in Library.	Estimated Value of Library.	Value of Building on It.	Building Fund.	Sermons to Young Men.	Prayer Meetings at Rooms.	Bible Class.	Other Religious Meetings.	Was Day of Prayer observed in Nov.	Literary Class.	Free Classes.	Direct Results of last year's work.	Special Religious Interest.	No. of Conversions during past year.
Manchester, N. H.	John P. Newell.	M. P. Hall.	300	300	Yes	100	\$100		\$500	4 a week	4 a week	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	50	
Manchester, Vt.	Samuel G. Cone.	Theodore Swift.	39	40	No	220	150	None	None	No	Weekly	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	40	
Manchester, Kan.	C. E. McCallister.	J. C. Postlethwaite.	40	40	No	150	150	None	None	No	Weekly	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	40	
Mansfield, Ohio.	D. Y. Lacy.	J. H. Reed.	45	\$675	No	170	350	None	None	No	Daily	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	40	
Martinsburg, Mass.	W. R. Woodbridge.	G. C. Osgood.	48	\$275	Yes	20	20	None	None	1 Weekly	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	40	
Marblehead, Mass.	James Cragger.	Wm. L. Martin.	34	1,200	Yes	None	None	None	None	2 a week	2 a week	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	40	
Meriden, Conn.	F. H. Williams.	Edw. J. Williams.	50	900	Yes	127	127	None	None	12 Weekly	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	40	
Middleboro, Mass.	Samuel Pattison.	A. T. Williams.	60	60	Yes	127	127	None	None	3 a month	2 a month	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	40	
Middlebury, Vt.	L. E. Knapp.	John W. Lovett.	35	100	Yes	175	200	None	None	10 Weekly	Weekly	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	40	
Middletown, N. Y.	Theron L. Little.	James F. House.	100	600	Yes	175	200	None	None	10 Weekly	Weekly	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	40	
Middletown, Conn.	Henry E. Sawyer.	James A. Peltou.	100	1,000	Yes	1,000	1,000	None	None	10 Weekly	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	60	
Middleton, Vt.	D. Leffingwell.	Isaac Gates.	33	40	10	12	12	None	None	Yes 2 a week	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	11	
Milford, Conn.	Elliot B. Platt.	Arthur A. Clark.	100	900	Yes	50	100	None	None	6 Daily	Daily	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	3	
Milford, Mass.	A. A. Cook.	G. L. Southwick.	145	500	Yes	50	100	None	None	12 Weekly	Daily	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	6	
Minneapolis, Minn.	W. O. Hakey.	Vernon Ball.	240	60	No	50	100	None	None	12 Weekly	Daily	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	6	
Mobile, Ala.	F. H. Price.	Ira W. Porter.	40	30	Yes	1,000	1,000	None	None	2	2 a week	Yes	S.S.	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	6	
Mont Gilead, Ohio.	R. F. Bartlett.	James Outcalt.	90	500	Yes	1,000	1,000	None	None	12 Weekly	Monthly	Yes	S.S.	Yes	No	No	Yes	6	
Montclair, N. J.	C. B. Morris.	F. A. Wheeler.	65	300	Yes	1,903	5,000	None	None	9 2 a week	2 a week	Yes	S.S.	Yes	No	No	Yes	25	
Montgomery, Ala.	S. B. Brewer.	T. L. Jones.	65	300	Yes	1,903	5,000	None	None	10	Monthly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	25	
Monroe, Mich.	E. J. Boyd.	Milo D. Hamilton.	65	300	Yes	1,903	5,000	None	None	10	Monthly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	25	
Montreal, Quebec, Can.	T. James Chilton.	Alfred Sandham.	60	2,500	Yes	1,903	5,000	None	None	10	Monthly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	25	
Mont Vernon, Ohio.	D. W. Chase.	R. G. Dildine.	60	300	Yes	10	30	None	None	9 2 a week	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	25	
Monterey, Cal.	Isaac Gates.	George Rowlands.	32	421	Yes	470	350	None	None	1 Daily	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	25	
Muskegon Harbor, N. S.	Thos. E. Packer.	J. W. Miner.	137	421	Yes	470	350	None	None	10 Daily & weekly	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	25	
Nashua, N. H.	David Knut.	P. S. Billheimer.	47	None	Yes	470	350	None	None	5 Weekly	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	42	
Nashua, N. H.	T. W. H. Mussey.	George W. Fox.	167	1,341	Yes	400	400	None	None	5 Weekly	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	42	
Newark, N. J.	C. C. Lathrop.	Wm. H. Ayres.	253	3,497	Yes	300	400	None	None	2 a week	2 a week	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	42	
Newburgh, N. Y.	H. V. R. Moulfort.	Moses C. Lathrop.	179	1,000	Yes	125	125	None	None	3 a week	3 a week	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	42	
Newburgh, Ohio.	F. Clark Miller.	M. L. Brooks.	100	800	Yes	125	125	None	None	3 a week	3 a week	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	42	
Newcastle, Pa.	Ira D. Lankey.	H. A. Ferguson.	107	979	Yes	125	125	None	None	3 a week	3 a week	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	42	
New Glasgow, N. S.	A. H. Patterson.	Harvey Graham.	107	979	Yes	125	125	None	None	3 a week	3 a week	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	42	
New Haven, Conn.	J. H. Starkweather.	Henry Storck.	107	2,000	Yes	125	125	None	None	3 a week	3 a week	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	42	
New Ipswich, N. H.	A. E. Newton.	J. W. Cummings.	25	2,000	Yes	125	125	None	None	3 a week	3 a week	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	42	

New London, Conn.	Henry C. Weaver	143	No	\$50	None	\$2,000	\$250	2 weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	4
Newtown, N. Y.	Newton Fuller	85	150	100	5,000	2,000	200	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	4
New Utrecht, N. Y.	D. S. Stephens	100	240	100	100	2,000	2,000	19 Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	4
New York City (German)	Henry Bueh	190	240	Yes	300	17,000	2,000	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	4
New York City	W. E. Duggan, Jr.	5107	7,101	Yes	6,646	150,000	2,000	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	4
Nicholsville, N. Y.	Jas. McFarland	92	No	None	None	None	None	2 weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	6
Riles, Mich.	H. E. Gorman	86	350	Yes	20	50	None	2 weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	6
N. Bennington, Vt.	R. L. Henry	73	350	Yes	35	50	None	4 Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	6
Northampton, Mass.	S. E. Brington	41	1,324	Yes	None	None	None	2 Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	6
North Brookfield, Mass.	Dani Gilbert	35	385	Yes	None	None	None	2 Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	6
North East, Penn.	Z. Rogers	43	None	450	200	None	None	Not regular	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	6
North Shore, S. I., N. Y.	Wm. E. Eagle	205	1,190	free	450	7,000	7,000	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	6
North Stonington, Conn.	Wm. P. Brown	23	Yes	1,200	None	None	None	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	6
Norwalk, Conn.	Albert White	138	Yes	1,200	None	None	None	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	6
Norwich, Vt.	H. R. Olds	35	Yes	1,200	None	None	None	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	6
Oberlin, Ohio	J. W. Peck	54	150	Yes	49	50	None	1 Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Ogdensburg, N. Y.	A. J. Holbrook	16	348	Yes	1,275	1,200	6,000	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Oliver, Mich.	Jas. W. Wilson	43	40	Yes	1,275	1,200	6,000	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Olney, Ill.	Q. D. Fisher	43	300	Yes	1,275	1,200	6,000	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Omaha, Neb.	J. M. Price	175	2,700	Yes	1,275	1,200	6,000	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Orange, N. J.	T. F. Seward	129	1,748	Yes	375	450	None	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Orange, Mass.	G. W. Dexter	120	Yes	375	450	None	None	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Orwell, Vt.	H. D. Branch	61	No	None	None	None	None	6 Daily	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Oswego, N. Y.	Sidney Thomas	134	No	None	None	None	None	6 Daily	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Owego, N. Y.	Orville J. Harmon	250	800	Yes	300	350	None	6 Daily	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Oxford, Ohio	Andrew Coburn	36	10	Yes	300	350	None	6 Daily	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Painesville, Ohio	D. R. Moore	36	10	Yes	300	350	None	6 Daily	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Pawtucket & Con'l Falls, R. I.	John W. T. Lett	40	200	No	800	700	None	6 Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Perry, Vt.	W. E. Tillinghast	129	1,002	Yes	305	500	None	6 Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Peterboro, Ontario	E. A. Brannan	48	25	No	7	7	None	6 Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Petaluma, Calif.	A. F. Clark	42	No	None	None	None	None	6 Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Petaluma, Calif.	J. A. Hall	24	No	None	None	None	None	6 Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Petaluma, Calif.	John W. Spencer	374	12,779	Yes	7,000	10,000	75,000	50 Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Petaluma, Calif.	Thos. Marshall	224	600	Yes	227	250	None	Daily	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Petaluma, Calif.	Jas. Patterson	125	575	Yes	400	450	None	Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Petaluma, Calif.	R. S. Drake	166	575	Yes	400	450	None	Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Petaluma, Calif.	R. R. Drake	20	277	Yes	306	300	None	Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Petaluma, Calif.	A. F. Gibbons	20	250	Yes	160	160	None	Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Petaluma, Calif.	F. K. Arnold	45	Yes	None	None	None	None	22 a week	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Petaluma, Calif.	Howard E. Tomlin	312	2,566	Yes	600	400	2,287	Daily	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Petaluma, Calif.	Jas. N. Morris	203	1,040	Yes	600	400	2,287	Daily	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Petaluma, Calif.	Robert E. Vail	106	1,146	Yes	600	400	2,287	Daily	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Petaluma, Calif.	R. N. Van Tassel	28	35	No	5,700	4,300	None	Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Petaluma, Calif.	R. B. Wagoner	35	3,204	Yes	5,700	4,300	None	Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Petaluma, Calif.	David W. Hoyt	80	110	No	None	None	None	Dy & weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Petaluma, Calif.	W. T. Lewis	80	110	No	None	None	None	Monthly	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5

ABSTRACT OF THE OFFICIAL REPORTS RECEIVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 1869-70.

NAME.—ADDRESS.	PRESIDENT.	CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.	No. of Members.	Current Expenses last year.	Reading Room.	No. of Volumes in Library.	Estimated Value of Library.	Value of Building.	Amount of Debt on it.	Building Fund.	Sermons to Young Men.	Prayer Meetings at Rooms.	Bible Class.	Other Religious Meetings.	Was Day of Prayer observed in Nov.	Literary Class.	Free Classes.	Direct Results of last year's work.	Special Religious Interest.	No. of Conversions during past year.
Reading, Pa.	J. H. Stearnberg.	W. O. Brewster.	65	\$150	Yes	500	\$50	None	None	None	No	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	53
Reading, Mass.	Robert Bowser.	T. Tolman Briggs.	60	275	Yes	164	100	None	None	None	Yes	2 a week	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	20
Rockport, Minn.	J. D. Blake.	J. Evans, Jr.	50	400	Yes	164	100	None	None	None	Yes	2 a week	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	20
Rockport, Mass.	N. Richardson, Jr.	Charles F. York.	88	1,390	Yes	32	None	None	\$1,500	None	6	2 a week	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	20
River John, N. S.	Robt. Sutherland.	John McKenzie.	27	35	No	60	None	None	None	None	Yes	2 a week	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	20
Rutland, Mass.	W. A. Wheeler.	Edward B. Miles.	24	813	Yes	700	600	None	None	None	Yes	2 a week	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	20
Sebecetady, N. Y.	Henry M. Roies.	R. E. Welch.	24	213	Yes	700	600	None	None	None	Yes	2 a week	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	20
Saratoga, Pa.	Nicholas Cain.	Daniel Hannah.	376	2,500	Yes	40	20	None	None	None	Yes	2 a week	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	20
Sandwich, Mass.	J. K. Chipman.	S. B. Bourne.	22	150	No	40	20	None	None	None	Yes	2 a week	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	20
Salem, Ohio.	Richard Wiggin.	Chas. C. Snyder.	165	592	Yes	50	25	None	None	None	Yes	2 a week	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	20
Salem, N. H.	Isaac Woodbury.	J. M. Welch.	66	1,500	Yes	50	25	None	None	None	Yes	2 a week	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	20
Salem, Mass.	D. R. Hagar.	C. H. Newell.	300	250	Yes	50	25	None	None	None	Yes	2 a week	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	20
Salisbury & Amesbury, Mass.	A. H. Fielden.	L. M. Beale.	46	250	Yes	50	25	None	None	None	Yes	2 a week	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	20
San Francisco, Cal.	Noah Brooks.	John Armstrong.	825	3,600	Yes	3,600	125,000	5,700	5,700	None	12	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	20
San Jose, Cal.	Calvert T. Bird.	A. E. Pomeroy.	110	1,000	Yes	1,000	650	None	None	None	3	Daily	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	20
Santa Ana, N. Y.	T. F. Allen.	H. M. Mingay.	292	965	Yes	425	500	None	None	None	12	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	20
Sheffield, Ohio	Wm. A. Day.	Harriet Day.	95	35	Yes	50	25	None	None	None	12	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	20
Shed, Ohio	G. W. Ballo.	D. D. Hart.	77	35	Yes	50	25	None	None	None	12	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	20
Shelbyville, Ill.	E. Gallagher.	W. A. Clements.	99	640	Yes	350	450	None	None	None	12	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	20
Shippensburg, Pa.	T. C. Billewether.	R. F. Fennery.	70	400	Yes	30	None	None	None	None	12	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	20
Shoreham, Vt.	W. Blanchard.	C. N. North.	101	150	No	30	None	None	None	None	12	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	20
Storham, Me.	Sam Staples.	James Bates.	85	87	No	None	None	None	None	None	12	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	20
South Berfield, Mass.	Sam Staples.	R. K. Hamilton.	104	320	Yes	450	1,000	None	None	None	12	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	20
South Boston, Mass.	W. H. Bragden.	H. L. Makenzie.	150	1,400	Yes	450	1,000	None	None	None	12	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	20
South Norwalk, Conn.	Henry McCoy.	F. E. Blake.	82	350	Yes	300	None	None	None	None	12	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	20
South Orange, N. J.	E. D. Conoll.	F. E. Blake.	85	100	No	None	None	None	None	None	12	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	20
Spencer, Mass.	Daniel Wilson.	J. Allen Maxwell.	51	543	Yes	None	None	None	None	None	12	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	20
Springfield, Ohio	Daniel A. Ball.	Henry M. Tower.	43	50	Yes	175	110	None	None	None	12	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	20
Springfield, Mass.	H. E. Mayhew.	C. E. Kiffin.	300	1,000	Yes	None	None	None	None	None	12	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	20
Springfield, Ill.	Henry W. Hallett.	Geo. C. Andrews.	73	None	Yes	None	None	None	None	None	12	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	20
Springfield, Ohio	Ed. A. Wilson.	G. W. Lucania.	121	800	Yes	2,000	2,900	None	None	None	12	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	20
Springfield, N. S.	B. F. Prince.	A. S. Dunlap.	90	400	Yes	None	None	None	None	None	12	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	20
Springdale, N. S.	James Sinclair.	D. M. G. Johnson.	30	80	Yes	None	None	None	None	None	12	2 a week	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	20

Steubenville, Ohio.	Ebt. Sheppard, Jr.	J. J. Buchanan	32	\$104	Yes	9	12	None	No	5	Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Good	4
St. Clair City, Mich.	E. L. Hill	J. R. W. ated.	565	956	Yes	400	500	None	No	5	Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Good	4
St. John, N. B.	William Welsh	Joshua Clawson.	64	350	Yes	50	50	None	No	5	Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Good	5
St. Johnsbury, Vt.	Geo. D. Warren.	George May	900	3,500	Yes	1,000	2,000	None	No	20,000	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Good	10
St. Louis, Mo.	Shepard Wells.	W. C. Regal.	541	567	Yes	280	235	None	No	2	Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Good	60
St. Louis (German), Mo.	J. C. Barrman.	H. S. Barth.	30	175	Yes	60	280	None	No	2	Daily	Yes	No	Yes	Good	60
Stonham, Mass.	J. P. Smith.	E. H. Smith.	137	1,575	Yes	281	280	None	No	2	Daily	Yes	No	Yes	Good	60
St. Paul, Minn.	S. S. Taylor.	D. C. Kelcham.	19	8	Yes	281	280	None	No	2	Daily	Yes	No	Yes	Good	60
Sudbury, Vt.	Michael Shippe.	David H. Kech.	23	8	Yes	281	280	None	No	2	Daily	Yes	No	Yes	Good	60
Sunderland, Mass.	Albert Hobart.	George S. Delano.	93	25	No	None	None	None	No	None	Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Good	23
Syracuse, N. Y.	Isaac Bridgman.	James G. Truman.	278	90	No	50	35	None	No	4	Daily	Yes	No	Yes	Good	278
Tatamagouche, N. S.	Arch. Campbell.	Edmund Moore.	131	95	No	None	35	None	No	5	Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Good	131
Taunton, Mass.	William H. Fox.	Chas. H. Atwood.	60	901	Yes	60	60	None	No	5	Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Good	60
Tidmore, Penn.	Wm. W. Hague.	John Andrews.	100	901	Yes	None	None	None	No	5	Daily	Yes	No	Yes	Good	100
Toledo, Ohio.	Chas. Houghlass.	Henry L. Phelps.	26	953	No	1,000	1,500	None	No	15	Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Good	26
Toney River, N. J.	Alex. Frazer.	Allan McQuerry.	342	953	No	1,000	1,500	None	No	15	Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Good	342
Toronto, Ont.	Daniel Wilson.	W. J. Robertson.	24	96	Yes	24	24	None	No	4	Daily	Yes	No	Yes	Good	24
Townsend, Mass.	J. W. Eastman.	J. S. Buchanan.	336	637	free	4,000	4,000	None	No	4	Daily	Yes	No	Yes	Good	336
Trenton, N. J.	Joe I. Wellington.	M. K. Crispy.	50	577	Yes	577	577	None	No	4	Daily	Yes	No	Yes	Good	50
Trenton, Mich.	Fletcher Linsley.	N. L. Brewer.	23	4	No	None	None	None	No	2	No	Yes	No	Yes	Good	23
Tiffin, Ohio.	S. J. Kirkwood.	D. H. Adams.	51	100	Yes	100	125	None	No	2	Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Good	51
Union Hill Centre, Vt.	Chas. W. Linsley.	Caleb L. Read.	17	1,200	Yes	100	125	None	No	2	Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Good	17
Upper Mills, Penn.	Isaac Fleming.	A. B. Fletcher.	180	1,200	Yes	100	125	None	No	2	Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Good	180
Utica, N. Y.	Wm. H. Fisher.	Edwin Hunt.	93	5,449	Yes	16,000	16,000	None	No	19,970	Yes	No	Yes	No	Good	93
Wakefield, Mass.	Waldo E. Soreley.	John W. Bailey.	890	5,449	Yes	16,000	16,000	None	No	19,970	Yes	No	Yes	No	Good	890
Washington (Colored), D. C.	John L. Thomas.	Wm. Lamborn.	34	125	Yes	16,000	16,000	None	No	19,970	Yes	No	Yes	No	Good	34
Washington, D. C.	O. A. Howard.	E. B. Denimond.	170	800	Yes	16,000	16,000	None	No	19,970	Yes	No	Yes	No	Good	170
Wasserville, Mo.	Thos. F. White.	John C. Gaden.	38	800	Yes	16,000	16,000	None	No	19,970	Yes	No	Yes	No	Good	38
Waterloo, Iowa.	Joseph Jones.	S. H. Hanson.	125	800	Yes	16,000	16,000	None	No	19,970	Yes	No	Yes	No	Good	125
Waterbury, Vt.	J. J. Colby.	Homer W. Kester.	101	800	Yes	16,000	16,000	None	No	19,970	Yes	No	Yes	No	Good	101
Waterbury, Conn.	Leah S. Davis.	Geo. E. Ecker.	30	800	Yes	16,000	16,000	None	No	19,970	Yes	No	Yes	No	Good	30
W. Amherst, Mass.	James D. Pike.	C. F. Dewey.	44	800	Yes	16,000	16,000	None	No	19,970	Yes	No	Yes	No	Good	44
West Berlin, Vt.	C. H. Farnsworth.	John H. Dunbar.	150	1,017	Yes	16,000	16,000	None	No	19,970	Yes	No	Yes	No	Good	150
West Brattleboro, Vt.	Joseph Chandler.	John S. Madlock.	175	1,017	Yes	16,000	16,000	None	No	19,970	Yes	No	Yes	No	Good	175
West Elkton, Ohio.	R. F. Latimer.	J. A. Babcock.	61	1,017	Yes	16,000	16,000	None	No	19,970	Yes	No	Yes	No	Good	61
Westfield, R. I.	Wm. M. Taylor.	H. E. Zimmerman.	175	1,017	Yes	16,000	16,000	None	No	19,970	Yes	No	Yes	No	Good	175
Westfield, Mass.	E. B. Smith.	W. H. H. Lyman.	62	500	No	61	75	None	No	500	Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Good	62
Westfield, N. J.	Israel C. Peterson.	W. H. P. Beach.	90	500	No	61	75	None	No	500	Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Good	90
West River, N. S.	Simon Fraser.	D. H. Macdonald.	38	14	No	40	12	None	No	400	Monthly	Yes	No	Yes	Good	38
Wheeling, W. V.	Joseph Willcuts.	Wm. H. Oxtoby.	266	600	Yes	417	475	None	No	2	Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Good	266
Whitewater, Wis.	George S. Marsh.	Warren Cules, Jr.	74	35	Yes	21	25	None	No	2	Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Good	74
Williamsport, Penn.	John Q. Berry.	Samuel C. Frost.	115	190	Yes	1,900	2,000	None	No	2	Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Good	115
Wilton, N. H.	Philander King	Waldo Foster.	32	190	Yes	1,900	2,000	None	No	2	Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Good	32
Windham, Vt.	Henry M. Benson.	Geo. W. Dimick.	29	190	Yes	1,900	2,000	None	No	2	Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	Good	29

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS.

			Cr.
Hamilton, Ont.	\$2 60	Olivet, Mich.	\$2 00
Medford, Mass.	2 50	Utica, N. Y.	1 00
Ottawa, Canada.	3 50	Erie, Pa.	5 00
Coldwater, Mich.	5 00	Poughkeepsie, N. Y.	2 50
St. Thomas, Ont.	2 00	Orange, N. J.	2 50
Montreal, Canada.	25 00	North Shore, S. I.	10 00
Rev. Jos. Smith, Buxton, Me.	50	Attleboro, Mass.	2 00
Binghamton, N. Y.	2 50	Waterville, Me.	50
Haverhill, Mass.	5 00	Easton, Pa.	2 50
Schenectady, N. Y.	1 00	Springfield, Mass.	5 00
Bethlehem, Pa.	13 50	Farmington, N. H.	2 50
Frederick, Md.	50	Biddeford, Me.	50
Worcester, Mass.	5 00	Portsmouth, N. H.	1 00
Rutland, Mass.	50	Brattleboro, Vt.	2 50
Des Moines, Iowa	1 00	Wheeling, West Virginia.	2 50
York, Pa.	5 00	Salem, Mass.	2 50
East Weymouth, Mass.	2 50	Shelby, Ohio.	1 50
Waltham, Mass.	1 00	Indianapolis, Ind.	5 00
West Amesbury, Mass.	50	Greenfield, Mass.	1 00
Leominster, Mass.	1 00	Peru, Vt.	50
Rochester, Minn.	2 50	Belobertown, Mass.	2 00
Salem, Ohio	50	Nashua, N. H.	2 50
Mystic Bridge, Conn.	2 50	Charleston, S. C.	2 50
Winsted, Conn.	1 00	Putnam, Conn.	1 00
Peacham, Vt.	50	Colchester, Conn.	2 50
Pittsburg, Pa.	7 50	Windsor, N. S.	1 50
Leicester, Mass.	1 00	Halifax, N. S.	10 00
Stamford, Conn.	1 00	Wm. Malen, Erie, Pa.	1 00
Orange, Mass.	1 00	Manchester, N. H.	2 50
Portland, Me.	5 00	Bangor, Me.	2 50
Roxbury, Mass.	2 50	Providence, B. I.	5 00
Lynn, Mass.	1 00	A. & G., for Journal.	50
St. Johns, N. B.	2 50	Fall River, Mass.	50 00
Lawrence, Mass.	5 00	Montclair, N. J.	5 00
Freeport, Me.	50	Madison, Wis.	2 50
Wakefield, Mass.	50	Hilledale, Mich.	6 00
Oberlin, Ohio.	1 00	Westerly, R. I.	3 00
Pictou, N. S.	2 50	Woburn, Mass.	2 50
Monroe, Mich.	1 00	Milford, Conn.	50
Rutland, Vt.	2 50	Bath, Me.	2 50
Sandwich, Mass.	1 00	Adrian, Mich.	2 50
Guliford, Mass.	1 00	Pawtucket, R. I.	5 00
Brunswick, Me.	2 50	Exeter, N. H.	1 00
Rockport, Mass.	1 00	North Brookfield, Mass.	2 50
Newtown, L. I.	2 50	Cincinnati, Ohio.	12 50
Oswego, N. Y.	50	Newark, N. J.	12 50
Clinton, Iowa.	1 00	St. Johnsbury, Vt.	5 00
Dummerstown, Vt.	50	Hollister, Mass.	1 00
New Brunswick, N. J.	2 50	Portland, Oregon	2 50
Burlington, Vt.	5 00	Charlestown, Mass.	5 00
Syracuse, N. Y.	5 00	Philadelphia, Pa.	25 00
Mansfield, Ohio.	2 38	New-York City	25 00
Mansfield, Ohio.	5 12	Boston, Mass.	5 00
Jersey City, N. J.	5 00	Detroit, Mich.	5 00
Kalamazoo, Mich.	3 00	Brooklyn, L. I.	25 00
Stoneham, Mass.	2 00	Bristol, R. I.	2 50
N. Slaughter, Greenville, Mich.	1 00	Northampton, Mass.	2 50
Chicopee, Mass.	50	Andover, Mass.	2 50
Harrisonville, Md.	1 00	Toronto, Canada.	5 00
Manchester, Vt.	1 00	Norwich, Vt.	1 00
G. E. Davis, Burlington	5 00	Hudson, N. Y.	5 00
West Meriden, Conn.	2 50	Washington, D. C.	5 00
Columbus, Ohio.	5 00		
Lowell, Mass.	5 00		
E. Brooklyn	5 00		
1870, June 1, Balance against Committee.			\$503 60
			296 66

To amount paid for Printing and Publishing	Dr.	\$800 26
To amount Balance carried to General Expenses.		296 66

SOUTHERN MISSION.

<i>Dr.</i>		<i>Cr.</i>	
Paid for Traveling Expenses.....	\$504 19	H. M. Moore, for a Sovereign.....	\$50 00
Paid for Mr. Hall's Salary.....	133 33	Joseph Owen, for 5 Francs.....	50 00
Paid Sundry Disbursements.....	88 60	Collection.....	97 00
		Geo. H. Stuart by Rev. Mr. Wylle...	100 00
		Rochester, Minn.....	20 00
		Lewiston, Me.....	25 00
		Mr. Colby, Mansfield, O.....	100 00
		Waterville, Me.....	90 00
		Fall River, Mass.....	60 00
		H. W. Adams.....	100 00
		Cincinnati, Ohio.....	200 00
		Weybridge, Vt.....	40 00
		Roxbury, Mass.....	4 00
		Mansfield, Ohio.....	50 00
		Chicago, Ill.....	175 00
		Philadelphia, Pa.....	150 00
		C. E. Whitehead.....	10 00
		T. G. Sellow.....	25 00
		A. G. P. Stokes.....	25 00
		Jno. Crosby Brown.....	25 00
June 1st, 1870.			
Amount Balance on hand.....	589 88		
Total.....	\$1,256 00	Total.....	\$1,256 00

MONTHLY ACCOUNT.

<i>Dr.</i>		<i>Cr.</i>	
To Amount Cash Paid.....	\$521 04		
June 1st, 1870.			
To Balance.....	574 68	By Cash Received.....	\$1,395 72
Total.....	\$1,395 72	Total.....	\$1,395 7

LIST OF OUTSTANDING ACCOUNTS,

June 18th, 1870.

Biddeford, Me.....	\$1 00	West Hoboken, N. J.....	\$15 00
Saccarrapa, ".....	11 00	Baltimore Central.....	25 00
Concord, N. H.....	30 00	Elyria, Ohio.....	20 00
Dover, ".....	19 00	Hamilton, Ohio.....	5 50
Great Falls, N. H.....	21 00	Toledo, ".....	17 50
South Falls, ".....	19 50	Mishawaukie, Ind.....	7 50
Brattleboro, Vt.....	25 00	Richmond, Ind.....	28 00
Pittsford, ".....	6 00	Kansas City, Mo.....	1 00
Stowe, ".....	6 00	Fondulac Wis.....	22 50
Middleboro, Mass.....	32 50	East Saginaw, Mich.....	11 50
Natick, ".....	32 00	Jackson.....	37 50
South Deerfield, Mass.....	25 50	Mankato, Minn.....	20 50
Westfield, ".....	30 00	San Francisco, Cal.....	121 00
Winchester, ".....	7 50	New Glasgow, N. S.....	15 00
Wakefield, R. I.....	1 50	Rockville, Ont.....	5 00
Danielsville, Conn.....	19 50	New Haven, Conn.....	75 00
Hartford, ".....	7 50	Holly, Mich.....	10 00
New Britain, ".....	6 00	Buffalo, N. Y.....	37 50
Norwich, ".....	15 00	Troy, ".....	20 00
Albany, N. Y.....	105 00	Marietta, O.....	15 00
Amsterdam, N. Y.....	30 00	C. P. Griffin, Toledo, O.....	15 00
Hudson, ".....	30 00	Grafton, Mass.....	16 00
Oswego, ".....	22 50	New-York City.....	1,145 00
Elizabeth, N. J.....	30 00		
Total.....		Total.....	\$2,198 00

ASSOCIATIONS WHICH DID NOT FORMALLY REPORT AT INDIANAPOLIS.

MAINE.

Bangor,
Bay City,
Farmington,
Gray,
Hollowville,
Norway,
Richmond,
Saccarappa,
Saco,
Sunderland,
Andover,
Brunswick,
Dexter,
Frysburg,
Leeds,
Oxford,
Wiscasset.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Dover,
Franklin,
Kene,
Portsmouth,
Canterbury,
Leicester,
Littleton,
Meriden,
New Market,
S. Falls.

VERMONT.

Bradfort,
Dummerston,
East Middlebury,
Hubbardston,
Peacham,
Rutland,
Springfield,
Townshend,
Weston,
Waybridge,
Wilmington,
Winooski,
Bennington,
Bristol,
Benson,
Bridgeport,
Castleton,
Essex Centre,
E. Barnard & Pomfret,
Felchville,
Johnstown,
Parkinsville,
Painsville,

Randolph,
Royalton,
St. Albans,
South Royalton,
Salisbury,
Stowe,
West Rutland,
Windham.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Andover,
Athol,
Ballard Vale,
Belchertown,
Beverly,
Grafton,
Lawrence,
Natic,
New Bedford,
Plymouth,
South Hadley,
West Brookfield,
West Newton,
Winchendon,
Amherst,
Amherst College,
Brookfield,
Barre,
Chicopee,
Cambridge,
Deerfield,
East Wayman,
East Abington,
East Hampton,
East Somerville,
Gloucester,
Heath,
Gardiner,
Marlboro,
Malden,
Medford,
Monson,
Newburyport,
Newton Corner,
New Ipswich,
North Adams,
North Bridgewater,
North Wrentham,
Oakham,
Pittsfield,
South Farmington,
South Reading,
Shelburne Falls,
South Weymouth,
South Danvers,

Saxonville,
Townsend Centre,
Williamstown,
Williams' College,
Westboro,
Whitensville,
Waltham,
Warren,
Westville,
Weymouth,
Winchester,
Woburn,
Yarmouth,
Yarmouth Port.

RHODE ISLAND.

Compton,
Centreville,
Newport,
Wakefield,
Woonsocket.

CONNECTICUT.

Danielsville,
Guilford,
Hartford,
New Britain,
Norwich,
Putnam,
Stamford,
Waterbury,
Winsted,
Danbury,
Kensington,
North Brookfield,
New Canaan,
Seymour,
Unionville,
Wolcottville,
West Goshen,
West Meriden,
Wallingford.

NEW-YORK.

Batavia,
Edgewater, S. I.,
Greenport,
Phoenix,
Richmond,
Riverhead,
Rochester,
Saugerties,
Tremont,
Troy,
Wayne,

Bath,
Brewster's Station,
Cohoes,
Delhi,
Dunkirk,
Fredonia,
Gloversville,
Jamestown,
New Rochelle,
Phelps,
Peru,
Rome,
Redwing,
Sandy Hill,
Walton,
Williamsburgh.

NEW JERSEY.

Camden,
Hackensack,
New Brunswick,
Paterson,
Perth Amboy,
Westfield,
West Hoboken and
Hudson City,
Burlington,
Bergen,
Hoboken,
Lambertville,
Montclair,
Princeton,
Plainfield,
Rockaway,
Vineland,
Washington.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Beaver,
Birmingham,
Bloomsburg,
Brookville,
Burgettstown,
Brainerd, (Easton.)
Carlisle,
Cross Creek,
Chester,
Cowy,
Carbondale,
Edinboro,
Fairview,
Greensburg,
Hollidaysburg,
Jersey Shore,
Lockhaven,
Lewisburg,
McKeesport,
Mechanicsburg,
Mercer,
Mount Jackson,
Pittsburg. (col'd.)
Philadelphia, (col'd.)
Pittsburg,

Slippery Rock,
Shrewsburg,
Selin's Grove,
Titusville,
Towanda,
Warren,
Washington,
Waterford,
Wirtemburg,
Wattsburg,
Brownsville,
Burlington,
Chambersburg,
Johnstown,
Noblestown,
Westchester,
Buffalo Village,
Brady's Bend,
Bedford,
Kittanning,
Columbia,
Connellsville,
Coatesville,
Cannonsburg,
Clearfield,
Danville,
Franklin,
Glen Rock,
Gettysburg,
Greenville,
Indiana,
Monongahela,
Meadville,
McConnellsburg,
Middletown,
Mauch Chunk,
New Brighton,
Norristown,
New Oxford,
Oil City,
Pottsville,
Perkins,
Pittston,
Ridgeway,
Rochester.

MARYLAND.

Frederick City,
Annapolis,
West Baltimore,
Cumberland,
Harrisonville,
Lutherville,
West Minster.

VIRGINIA.

Richmond,
Charlottesville,
Petersburg,

WEST VIRGINIA.

Clarksburg,
Moundville,

Wheeling.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.
East Washington.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Buena Vista,
Columbia,
Florence,
Newbury,
Sumter,
Spartansburg.

ALABAMA.

Montgomery,
Mobile,
Opelike, (Lee Co.,)
Opeleka, (Russell Co.)

OHIO.

Lancaster,
Kenton,
Kingsville,
Middletown,
McConnellsville,
Marietta,
Sandusky,
Ironton,
Wilmington,
East Fairfield.

INDIANA.

Franklin,
Richmond,
Evansville,
Fort Wayne,
Goshen,
Kokomo,
Logansport,
Madison,
South Bend,
Terra Haute,
Washington, Davis Co.

ILLINOIS.

Chicago,
Elgin,
Freeport,
Galesburg,
Mendota,
Peoria,
Pontiac,
Quincy,
Aurora,
Arcola,
Bloomington,
Brimfield,
Clinton,
Elmwood,
Fairburg,
Geneva,
Henepin,
Monmouth,

Morris,
Princeton,
Rockford,
Rock Island,
St. Charles,
Washburn,
Wilmingon.

KENTUCKY.
Lexington,
Shelbyville.

TENNESSEE.
Knoxville.

MISSOURI.
Hannibal,
Jefferson City,
Kirksville,
Macon,
Springfield,
Sedalia,
St. Joseph,
Warrensburg.

KANSAS.
Topeka,
Atchison,
Junction,
Leavenworth,
Lawrence,
Ottawa.

IOWA.
Clinton,
Davenport,
Iowa City,
Jefferson,
Boonesboro,
Burlington,
Des Moines,
Marshalltown,
Winterset.

WISCONSIN.
Ripon,
Berlin,

Fort Atchison,
Green Bay,
Madison,
Palmyra.

MICHIGAN.
Ann Arbor,
Cold Water,
Corrunna,
East Saginaw,
Fenton,
Hillsdale,
Pontiac,
Ann Arbor City,
Battle Creek,
Fentonville,
Holly,
Marshall,
Marquette.

MINNESOTA.
Redwing,
Winona,
Mankato,
St. Anthony's Falls.

COLORADO.
Grass Valley,
Marysville.

CALIFORNIA.
San Francisco,
Stockton.

CANADA.
Collingwood,
Dundas,
Kingston,
London,
Oshawa,
Paris,
Port Rowan,
Perth,
Quebec,
Stratford,
Sherbrooke,
Woodstock,

Whitby,
Brantford, Prov. of Ont.
Brockville, " "

NOVA SCOTIA.
Glenelg,
Hopewell,
Lyons Brook,
Lower Barney's Brook,
Meagher's Grant,
Marshville,
Merigomish,
Middle Musquodoloit,
Newport,
Springville,
Touru,
Upper Stewiacke,
Waverly,
Westville,
Baddeeh, Cape Breton,
Canard, (Keys Co.)
Dartmouth,
Greenhill, (Pictou Co.)
Carriboo and Tony
River, (Pictou Co.)
Kentville,
Middle Stewiacke,
Shaneul Hall,
Scotch Hill,
Scotsburn,
Watervale,
Waterville,
Folly Village,
Latrose,
Milton, (Queens Co.)
Musquodoloit,
(Middle Co.)
Talmagonish.

NEW BRUNSWICK.
Chatam,
Miramichi.

BERMUDA.
Hamilton Parish,
Harrington.

Form A.

Young Men's Christian Association.

187

To the Young Men's Christian Association of

DEAR BRETHREN :

I beg to introduce to your cordial regard and fellowship the bearer,
Mr. _____ an

and earnestly commend him to the affectionate regard and brotherly
care of the Officers and Members of your Association.

I remain,

Yours fraternally,

Please acknowledge receipt on Form B.

Form B.

Young Men's Christian Association.

To the Y. M. C. A. at

DEAR BRETHREN,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter introducing
Mr.

and trust we shall be able to make him at home among us, and
enlist him in the work in which we are engaged.

Yours fraternally,



Members of the National Executive Committee,

Appointed at Portland, Me., July, 1869, for Three Years.

Located in New-York.

OPPHAS BRAINERD,	48 Pine Street.
WILLIAM F. LEE,	150 West 48th Street.
JAMES STOKES, JR.,	104 John Street.
TIMOTHY G. SELLEW, JR.,	104 Fulton Street.
BENJAMIN C. WETMORE,	9 Pine Street.
EDGAR A. HUTCHINS,	39 Pine Street.
ROBERT R. MCBURNEY, Y. M. C. A. Building, (corner of 23d Street and 4th Avenue.)	

Corresponding Members.

Quebec	J. R. DOUGALL	Montreal.
Ontario	WILLIAM ANDERSON	Toronto.
Nova Scotia	JAMES FARQUHAR	Halifax.
New Brunswick	JOSHUA CLAWSON	St. John's.
Prince Edward's Island	WILLIAM HEARD	Charlottetown.
Maine	HENRY H. BURGESS	Portland.
New Hampshire	E. O. BLUNT	Nashua.
Vermont	O. B. DOUGLASS	Brattleboro.
Massachusetts	L. P. ROWLAND, JR.	Boston.
Rhode Island	EDWIN R. HOLDEN	Providence.
Connecticut	NEWTON FULLER	New London.
New York	JOHN I. PLATT	Poughkeepsie.
New Jersey	W. J. CARLTON	Elizabeth.
Pennsylvania	THOMAS K. CREE	Pittsburg.
Maryland	D. W. GLASS	Baltimore.
District of Columbia	GEORGE A. HALL	Washington.
Western Virginia	ALVARADO F. GIBBENS	Parkersburg.
South Carolina	V. C. DIERLE	Charleston.
Kentucky	JOHN L. WHEAT	Louisville.
Ohio	H. P. LLOYD	Cincinnati.
Indiana	JOHN R. BRANDT	Indianapolis.
Illinois	E. WILSON	Springfield.
Missouri	THOMAS MARSHALL	St. Louis.
Michigan	SILAS FARMER	Detroit.
Wisconsin	H. J. COWLES	Madison.
Nebraska	W. R. BENTLEY	Omaha.
Iowa	GEORGE R. RANSOM	Dubuque.
California	R. J. TRUMBULL	San Francisco.
Minnesota	W. O. HISKEY	Minneapolis.
Kansas	WILLIAM DILL	Leavenworth.
Mississippi	H. G. SATTING	Brookhaven.
North Carolina	J. C. SLOCUM	Goldsboro.
Tennessee	MR. CARTER	Bristol.
Louisiana	A. L. BROWN	New Orleans.
Virginia	C. H. DIMMICK	Richmond.
Georgia	CHARLES H. OLMSTEAD	Savannah.
Alabama	JOSEPH HARDEE	Selma.
Florida	M. PAGE	Jacksonville.

III. 9399.2
PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

Young Men's Christian Associations

OF THE

UNITED STATES AND BRITISH PROVINCES,

HELD AT WASHINGTON, D. C.,

MAY, 1871.

New-York:

PUBLISHED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

1871.

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OF THE

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

Young Men's Christian Associations

OF THE

UNITED STATES AND BRITISH PROVINCES,

HELD AT WASHINGTON, D. C.,

JUNE, 1871.



New-York :

PUBLISHED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

1871.

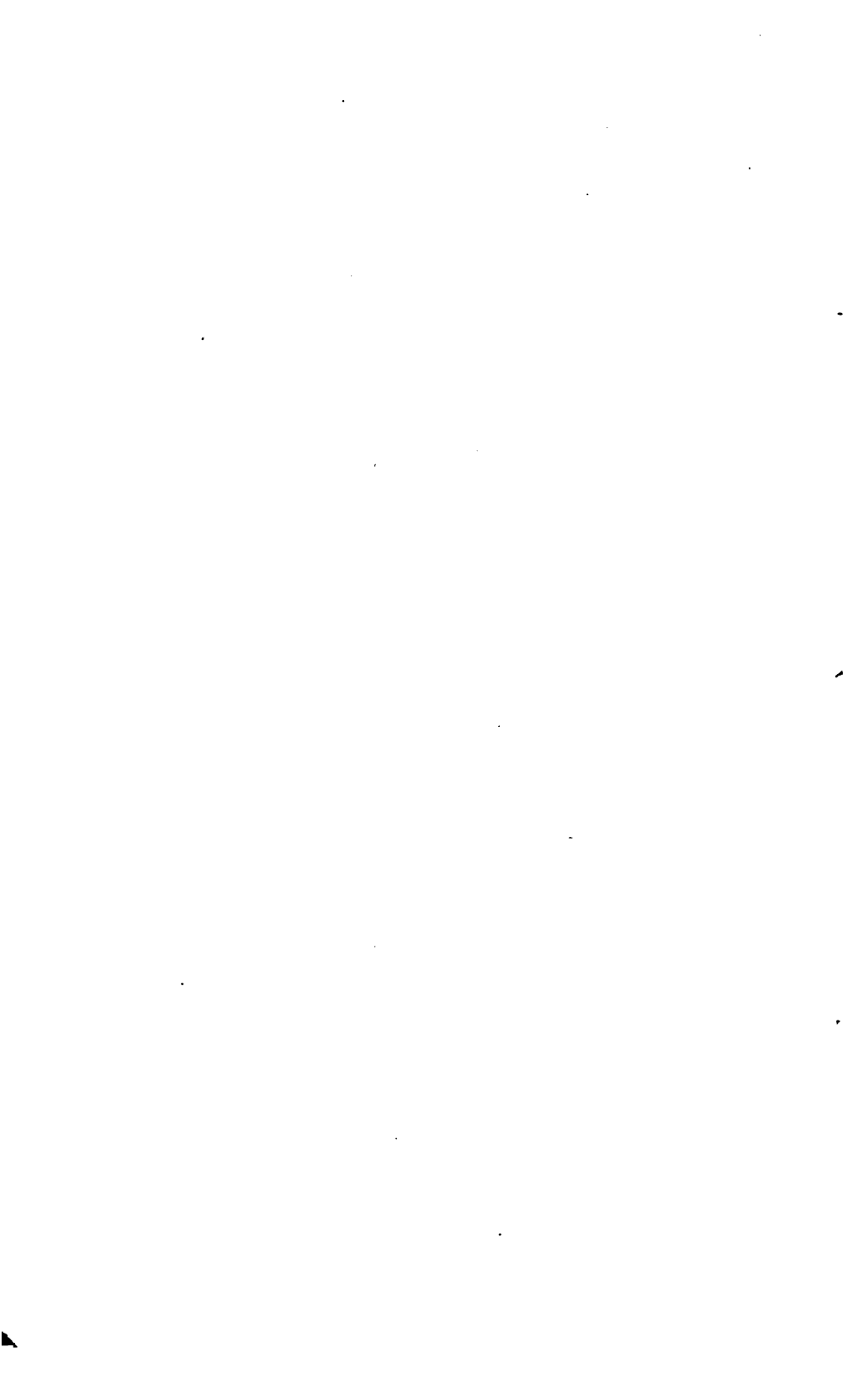


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RULES OF THE CONVENTION.

1. The order of each day's proceedings shall be as follows :

Devotional Exercises—Reading of Minutes—Calls for Resolutions, Memorials and Propositions—Reading of Communications—Reports of Standing Committees—Reports of Special Committees—Unfinished Business.

2. Immediately after the organization is completed, the President shall appoint the following Standing Committees, each to consist of seven members :

A Committee on Associations, to which shall be referred all matters touching the Associations in their individual and united action.

A Business Committee, to whom shall be referred all business of a general nature.

A Committee on the Report of the Executive Committee.

A Committee on Public and Devotional Meetings.

But the Convention may refer any business to a special Committee, or to the Committee of the Whole, at its pleasure.

A Special Committee of three shall be appointed by the President at the opening session, to which all resolutions, memorials and propositions shall be handed, on or before the second day of the session of the Convention, each paper to contain the name of the proposer and the name of the Association he represents. These resolutions to be at once referred to the Committee without reading.

3. After the appointment of the Committees, memorials, resolutions and propositions shall be referred, by the President, without action or debate, to a Standing Committee, unless the Convention shall refer the same to a Select Committee, or to the Committee of the Whole ; and this rule of reference shall apply to all business brought before the Convention, except such as is incidental in its character.

4. The Convention at any time, may resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, and consider, in a general form, any propo-

sition or matter appertaining to the Associations, with a view to develop the experience of the Associations and the opinions of Delegates upon the subjects under consideration; and at the close of its discussion thereon, the Committee shall report its conclusions to the Convention for its action; the report to be prepared and submitted for such reference to the Committee of the Whole, by the Standing Committee, to whose jurisdiction the matter under discussion relates, unless the Committee of the Whole shall appoint a Special Committee to prepare and submit the report.

5. No Committee shall sit while the Convention is in session, without special permission.

6. All Committees shall be appointed by the Chair, unless otherwise ordered; and shall report matters referred to them, unless otherwise instructed, previous to the last business session of the Convention.

7. All reports of Committees shall be numbered and placed upon a docket, and brought up in regular order in Convention, except such as shall be referred to the Committee of the Whole.

8. No member shall speak more than once on any question, until others who wish have spoken, nor more than five minutes, without unanimous consent; and this rule shall prevail in Committee of the Whole.

9. All motions shall be reduced to writing before they are put to vote.

10. The vote, when desired by five members of different Associations, on any proposition, shall be taken by yeas and nays, and recorded. In such cases, each Association shall be entitled to one vote, which shall be cast by a majority of its Delegates present.

11. Pending any question, it shall always be in order to move that the debate close, which motion shall be put without discussion in this form: "Shall the question be now put?"

12. The Convention may at any time suspend the rules for a specified object, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

13. The members of the Executive Committee, the Corresponding Members thereof, and the members of the Lecture Bureau shall be entitled to seats in the Convention as Delegates.

Circulars, etc., Conbening the Conbention.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS }
OF THE UNITED STATES AND BRITISH PROVINCES. }
23d Street, Cor. of 4th Avenue, New-York City. }

March 11th, 1871.

*To the Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and
British Provinces.*

DEAR BRETHREN :

In compliance with the resolution adjourning the Indianapolis Convention, the Executive Committee announces that the Sixteenth Annual Convention of these Societies will be held in Washington, D. C., on the 24th day of May next, and that the meeting for organization will be held at ten o'clock, A. M., of that day.

As instructed at Indianapolis, the Executive Committee will submit the following, among other topics, for consideration and discussion in the Convention :

1. *God's Word—How shall it be studied, and how shall the study of it be promoted in our Associations?*

2. *Modern Scepticism in its relations to young men—How shall it be met by our Associations?*

3. *Secular Instruction—What place should it have in the work of our Associations?*

4. *Young men in Business—What are their temptations, and how shall they be resisted?*

5. *Money for the support of our Associations—How shall it be raised?*

6. *Our Religious Work—How shall it be made more effective?*

Well-known gentlemen have been invited to address the Convention in opening the foregoing topics, for not more than three-quarters of an hour, to be followed by a general discussion.

Questions relating to the frequency of the General Conventions, and the ratio of representation, will also be submitted for discus-

sion and action. The Convention will also be requested to take action :

(1.) In regard to the general work placed in the hands of this Committee. If it shall be decided to prosecute it as heretofore, or to extend and enlarge it, it will be necessary for the Convention to provide the money therefor.

(2.) In regard to the periodical published by the order of the Conventions. This Committee has already declared its conviction that the progress which has marked these Societies, and the harmony which has characterized their action and influence cannot be maintained without it. But the responsibility of its publication should not be cast upon the Committee for another year, unless the Associations are prepared to give it a practical and hearty support, and this should be indicated through instructions given to their delegates.

(3.) In regard to the publication and distribution of the proceedings of the Convention, the addresses prepared by invitation upon the special topics, and other papers relating to the prosecution and extension of Association work.

The basis of representation is fixed upon a computation of all active members of Associations who have paid their dues. Those having 100 members or less, are allowed three delegates; for every additional 100 members or fraction thereof exceeding 50, one delegate is allowed; but no Association is allowed more than fifteen delegates. No Association organized since the Portland Convention will be allowed representation unless the test of membership then fixed, *i. e.*, membership in an Evangelical Church, be incorporated in its Constitution. The Committee earnestly request the proper officer of each Association to fill up the enclosed blank and return it to the Committee on or before 20th April.

A Circular will shortly be issued by the WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION, embracing all matters of detail within their province, such as Rates of Fare, Place of Meeting, Reception of Delegates, and the like, which will render unnecessary any special inquiry on the part of the Brethren.

Enclosed are blank certificates for delegates to the Convention. Each delegate should be provided with one. These will be re-

ceived by the proper Committee, which will be in attendance for one hour before the opening of the Convention, and none but delegates thus accredited will be admitted to the floor until after the organization is completed.

As this Convention must, in an especial manner, attract attention, and as its influence must be wide-spread and deeply felt, the Executive Committee feel it to be their duty, respectfully and earnestly to remind the Associations of the necessity of sending, as their representatives, men of wisdom, spirituality, and a sound mind, and also of praying fervently to the God of all wisdom and love that the deliberations and work of the Convention may be guided and blessed by the Holy Spirit, to the glory of the Saviour and the establishment of His kingdom.

Fraternally yours,

CEPHAS BRAINERD, JAMES STOKES, JR., TIMOTHY G. SELLEW, JR., ROBERT R. MCBURNEY, EDGAR A. HUTCHINS, BENJAMIN C. WETMORE, VERRANUS MORSE,	}	<i>Executive Committee.</i>
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SIXTEENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION,

Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces.

WASHINGTON, 24TH MAY, 1871, AT 10 A. M.

Mr.

is a duly elected

Delegate from the Association of

State of

Corresponding Secretary.

ROOMS OF THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION,
 CORNER OF NINTH AND D STREETS,
 WASHINGTON, D. C., April 21, 1871.

*To the Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and
 British Provinces:*

DEAR BRETHREN :

As has already been announced in the Circular of the Executive Committee, the Sixteenth Annual International Convention

of Young Men's Christian Associations will be held in our city, commencing Wednesday, the 24th day of May next, 1871.

The Convention will meet for organization at ten o'clock, A.M., of that day, at Lincoln Hall, Y. M. C. A. Building, corner Ninth and D Streets.

The reception welcome will be given on Wednesday Evening, May 24, at the Congregational Church, corner of Tenth and G Streets, and the farewell meeting on Sunday Evening, May 28.

The Committee on Entertainment will endeavor to provide for all *delegates* at the residences of our citizens ; but those who prefer hotel accommodations can avail themselves of either of the following-named houses, all of which will entertain delegates, and those who accompany them, at the reduced rates of \$2 per day :

WILLARD'S HOTEL, corner Pennsylvania Avenue and 14th Street.

EBBITT HOUSE, corner F and 14th Street.

NATIONAL HOTEL, corner Pennsylvania Avenue and 6th Street.

The Reception Committee will be in attendance at the depot on the arrival of each train, to receive and assign delegates to their quarters. Those arriving by the late night trains can be accommodated at the hotels, at the above reduced rates, for the first night, and next day accommodations with our citizens will be furnished, when desired. The Reception Committee will be designated by badges.


Delegates upon arriving in the city are requested to wear a badge of white ribbon, one inch wide, with the name of their Association printed thereon. This will largely facilitate intercourse with them by the Committee, and with each other.




The Committee of Arrangements beg to lay before the Associations, and all others interested, the following, as the result of the efforts to secure reduced rates of fare for the Convention :



TRANSPORTATION SCHEDULE.

THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION present the following schedule of Railroad and Steamboat Routes for the consideration of Delegates, and beg to enjoin the closest attention to the various particulars set forth, and a strict compliance with all requirements, which will relieve both railroad officials and delegates themselves from annoyance and confusion. The Committee indulge the hope that the details given are sufficiently explicit to render further inquiry

unnecessary, though they will be happy to respond to any requests for information which may not be covered by this schedule.

No. 1.—NEW-YORK TO WASHINGTON, AND RETURN, by New-York and Washington Air Line.—Round Trip Excursion Tickets from New-York, \$10; from Philadelphia, \$6; for sale in New-York, May 22 to May 26, inclusive, at Desbrosses Street Ferry Office; in Philadelphia, same date, depot corner Broad Street and Washington Avenue. Tickets also for sale in Newark, same rate as from New-York. Delegates' credentials will be honored for tickets for themselves and members of their families; any others desiring to attend the Convention can avail themselves of the Excursion Tickets by *first procuring orders for the same* from the Transportation Committee, or upon arrival in New-York at the rooms of the Association, 28d Street and 4th Avenue; and in Philadelphia, at the rooms of the Association, 1,210 Chestnut Street. Local connections of No. 1.—at Philadelphia.—Reading Railroad will carry delegates to Philadelphia and return at one and one-third single fare, on *showing credentials*.—North Pennsylvania Railroad will sell Excursion Tickets to Philadelphia and return at two-thirds regular fare, on *orders* to be furnished by the Committee. Belvidere Delaware Railroad.—Excursion Tickets to Philadelphia and return for two-thirds regular fare, on *showing credentials*; tickets to be had at Trenton, Lambertville, Phillipsburgh and Manunka Chunk *only*. Delaware, Lackawanna and Western.—Delegates will pay full fare to Manunka Chunk, returning from that point on certificate of attendance. Lehigh Valley Railroad will sell Excursion Tickets from any point on the line to point of divergence at single fare for round trip, on *orders*. West Jersey Railroad will return delegates from Philadelphia at *half fare* on certificate of attendance. Philadelphia & Baltimore Central Railroad will return delegates on certificate of attendance.  From Philadelphia to Washington for all of the above, see No. 1.

No. 2.—FROM BOSTON TO NEW-YORK, AND RETURN.—Boston and Providence Railroad.—Will sell not less than fifty round trip tickets, via Stonington Line "Sound," \$7.00; "Shore Line" all rail, \$8.00. Old Colony and Newport Railway, via Fall River, and Narragansett Steamship Co.—Will sell not less than fifty round trip tickets at \$7.00.  NOTE.—The Committee entertain a hope of being able to improve the arrangements from Portland and Boston to New-York, and delegates will learn full particulars as to the most favorable route between these points upon application to L. P. Rowland, Jr., Secretary, Y. M. C. A., No. 5, Tremont Temple, Boston, Mass. **FROM POINTS EAST OF BOSTON.**—The International Steamship Co.—Will carry delegates from St. Johns to Boston, and return, touching at Portland, at \$7.00 for the round trip. Portland, Saco & Portsmouth Railroad.—Delegates will pay full fare going, and return on certificate of attendance. Portland & Kennebec and Maine Central Railroads.—Delegates will *present credentials* and pay full fare going, asking *at the same time for a free return ticket from Portland*. Androscoggin Railroad to Brunswick, Maine Division European and No. American Railroad to Bangor; New Brunswick Division European and No. American Railroad to St. Croix, and Windsor and Annapolis Railway, (N. S.) will severally accept certificates of attendance for return.  For other arrangements in the Eastern Provinces, delegates are respectfully referred to John S. Maclean, Esq., Halifax, N. S.  At New-York, for all of the foregoing, see No. 1.

No. 3.—FROM PROVIDENCE TO NEW-YORK AND RETURN.—Full fare going by Stonington Railroad and Steamboat Line to New-York, returning on special free tickets issued by the Committee on Transportation; or by all rail Shore Line to New-York, returning as before from New London.  Housatonic Railroad.—Delegates will buy from Pittsfield, &c., to New-York, and return free on certificate of attendance from Bridgeport.  At New-York, see No. 1.

No. 4.—FROM MONTREAL, OGDENSBURGH, BURLINGTON, RUTLAND, &c., TO NEW-YORK, by Grand Trunk, Vermont Central, Rensselaer & Saratoga, and People's Line of Steamers on Hudson River.—Delegates will pay full fare to Albany; at Albany, *their credentials* will entitle them to

passage by People's Line of Steamers to New-York at *one dollar*. Returning from New-York by People's Line, Pier 41 N. River, certificate of attendance will entitle them to tickets at same price to Albany, and for each of above-named roads special free return tickets will be issued by Committee on Transportation. Fare, by this arrangement, will be: Montreal to New-York, \$10.45; Burlington, do., \$8.70; Rutland, do., \$4.70. Or delegates can buy through to New-York, at full fare, via White River Junction and Bellows Falls, and will return free, from Springfield, on Vermont Central and Connecticut River Railroads. ~~See~~ From New-York to Washington, see No. 1. ~~See~~ Grand Trunk Local. Delegates will pay full fare to Montreal or other point of divergence, and return free on the Company's ticket, issued by the Committee.

No. 5.—FROM ROCHESTER AND CANANDAIGUA TO BALTIMORE AND RETURN.—By Northern Central Railway—Round trip excursion tickets *on orders* furnished by the Committee, for sale at Canandaigua depot, and at Brackett House, Rochester; fare \$14. These tickets will also be on sale at Havana, Watkins, Pen Yan, Elmira, Troy, Canton, and at *all* points south of Sunbury, and are good for delegates and members of their families. Delegates from Lockport, Auburn, Syracuse, Ithaca, Binghamton, Owego, &c., are advised to give this route the preference. Local connections of No. 5—Cumberland Valley Railroad will sell round trip excursion tickets, *on showing credentials*, to Harrisburg and return, good from May 22 to June 11. ~~See~~ From Baltimore to Washington, see No. 12.

No. 6.—FROM BUFFALO TO BALTIMORE, AND RETURN.—By Erie Railway, via Elmira—Round trip Excursion tickets can be purchased at Erie depot, in Buffalo, *on showing credentials*, good for delegates and members of their families; fare \$16. ~~See~~ From Baltimore to Washington, see No. 12.

~~See~~ GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY OF CANADA—Delegates will pay full fare to Buffalo, and be returned *free* from Suspension Bridge, on certificate of attendance. From Toronto, Goderich, Stratford, and other points on west end of Grand Trunk, to Buffalo, or Suspension Bridge, full fare going, and return as above.

No. 7.—FROM DETROIT.—It is possible that the General Passenger Agent of the Great Western Railway at Detroit may yet arrange to connect a round trip through ticket with that of the Erie at Buffalo. If that be not accomplished, delegates can still avail themselves of the Great Western's full fare going and free return arrangement, and buy the Erie's Excursion ticket at Buffalo. ~~See~~ NOTE.—The Committee regret to inform the Michigan Associations that the roads in that State have formed a mutual combination against any reductions for such purposes, and they can therefore present nothing for that State outside of Detroit, and the Grand Rapids and Indiana Railroad, noted in No. 11.

No. 8.—FROM ERIE, &c., TO BALTIMORE, AND RETURN.—Philadelphia and Erie Railroad will sell round trip tickets from principal stations to Baltimore, and return, at excursion rates, *on orders* for same, to be furnished by Committee. From stations where tickets are not sold, will sell to Sunbury, and return. ~~See~~ From Baltimore to Washington, see No. 12. Local Connections of No. 8.—Lackawanna and Bloomsburg Railroad will sell round trip tickets, *on showing credentials*, good both ways, at two-thirds regular fare.

No. 9.—FROM PITTSBURG TO BALTIMORE, AND RETURN.—Pennsylvania Railroad will sell, *on orders*, same as No. 8. From Stations where tickets are not sold, will sell to Harrisburg and York, and return. ~~See~~ From Baltimore to Washington, see No. 12. Local connections of No. 8.—Allegheny Valley Railroad—Delegates who pay full fare going, will be returned free from Pittsburg *on certificates of attendance*.

No. 10.—FROM CLEVELAND TO BALTIMORE, AND RETURN.—Round trip excursion tickets to be obtained only *on orders* to be furnished by Committee on Transportation, from Cleveland and principal stations south of Cleveland, on Cleveland and Pittsburg Railroad, *to Baltimore, and return*, will be placed on sale at Cleveland Depot, &c., May 22 to 24, inclusive.

Fare for the round trip will be equal to one regular through fare and one-third added. Present through fare, Cleveland to Baltimore, \$13. ~~At~~ BALTIMORE, see No. 12.

- No. 11.—FROM CHICAGO, &c., TO BALTIMORE, AND RETURN.—~~Only~~ *Only through route from Chicago offering any inducements to delegates*, by Pittsburg, Fort Wayne and Chicago, Pennsylvania Central and Northern Central Railroads; round trip excursion tickets from Chicago to Baltimore, and return, will be placed on sale at Fort Wayne Railroad office, 65 Clark Street, Chicago, and at Fort Wayne depot in said city, from Sunday evening, May 21, to Tuesday evening, May 23, inclusive. Fare for the round trip \$25. These tickets will be sold only to delegates, and members of their families accompanying them, *upon showing regular credentials*. Any other person desiring to attend the Convention from Chicago can procure a ticket *only upon an order* to be furnished by the Committee on Transportation. From points east of Chicago, on the Pittsburg and Fort Wayne and Grand Rapids and Indiana Railroads.—Round trip excursion tickets to Baltimore, and return, as above, will be placed on sale at all principal stations (express trains) and can be procured by delegates *only on presenting orders for same*, to be furnished by Committee on Transportation. Fares for the round trip will be on basis of one regular through rate and one third added. Present through fares to Baltimore are from Grand Rapids, \$19.95; from Kalamazoo \$19; from Fort Wayne, \$15.50; from Crestline, \$14.40. ~~Be sure to send for orders.~~ From Baltimore to Washington see No. 12.

~~Delegates concentrating at Chicago are requested to notify, in advance, W. C. Cleland, Esq., Agent Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad, 65 Clark Street, Chicago, who will, if a sufficient number report to warrant it, on the morning or evening of Monday, May 22, send one or more Pullman Palace Drawing room or Sleeping cars through to Baltimore.~~ ~~No reduction in Palace car accommodations.~~

- No. 12.—FROM BALTIMORE TO WASHINGTON AND RETURN.—Washington Branch, Baltimore & Ohio Railroad—All delegates arriving at Baltimore, by routes Nos. 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11, will pay full fare to Washington, (\$1.20), and be returned *to Baltimore* on company's return tickets, to be supplied by the Committee.
- No. 13.—FROM SANDUSKY, TOLEDO, COLUMBUS, CINCINNATI, PARKERSBURG, WHEELING, &c., TO WASHINGTON DIRECT.—Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, Main Line and connections—From Sandusky, and stations south by Lake Erie and Central Ohio divisions to Wheeling (Benwood) and Washington. Fares, from Sandusky, \$15.10; Monroeville, \$15; Mansfield, \$14.20; Mount Vernon, \$14; return free on Company's special tickets, supplied by the Committee. From Toledo and contiguous points in Michigan and Indiana.—Buy through from Toledo, *via* Monroeville, to Washington; fare \$16; return on special tickets *to* Monroeville. From Columbus, Newark, &c., to Washington, by Central Ohio division and Main Stem; fare from Columbus, \$13.50; return as above. From Cincinnati, Portsmouth, &c., by Marietta & Cincinnati Railroad to Parkersburg and Washington; fare from Cincinnati, \$16; from Portsmouth, \$15.50; from Parkersburg, \$11; return as above. From Zanesville, *via* Central Ohio Division and Main Stem; fare \$12.95. Local connections of No. 13.—At Zanesville, (Central Ohio Division,) with Cincinnati and Muskingum Valley Railroad—Delegates will buy through tickets to Washington *via* Zanesville, and will be returned by B. & O., as above, and, on superintendent's certificate, over the C. & M. V., to be supplied by the Committee. Fare from Circleville, \$15.20; from Lancaster, \$14.45; from Wilmington, \$16.85.

- No. 14.—FROM INDIANAPOLIS TO WASHINGTON AND RETURN.—By Pittsburg, Cincinnati & St. Louis and Baltimore and Ohio Railroads—Round trip excursion tickets *from Indianapolis to Washington, direct*, and return, as above, will be sold at P. C. & St. L. depot, in Indianapolis, from Sunday evening, May 21st, to Tuesday evening, May 23d, inclusive. Fare for

the round trip, \$19.70. ~~See~~ Lafayette delegates and others on the line of the I. C. & L., will pay local fare to Indianapolis or Cincinnati and return *from* those points, on certificate of attendance. Delegates from Richmond, Urbana, Cambridge, Greenville, Union, Logansport, Piqua, Springfield, Dayton, Hamilton, Xenia, &c., will have to pay local both ways, to either Indianapolis, Cincinnati or Columbus, and thus avail themselves of the through arrangement most convenient. ~~See~~ From St. Louis.—The Committee regret to announce that all their approaches and endeavors to secure a reduced rate from St. Louis, in connection with those east of that city have failed. They have, therefore, nothing better to suggest, to St. Louis, Springfield, Jacksonville, Cairo, Shelbyville, Olney, Bloomington, &c., than the above route from Indianapolis. Shawneetown, Evansville, and Vincennes, can pay full fare over the Evansville and Crawfordsville Railroad to Terra Haute, and will be returned *from* that point on certificate of attendance.

- No. 15.—FROM LOUISVILLE.—Louisville and Cincinnati Short Line will sell, on *showing credentials*, round trip tickets to Covington, and return, \$4; to Cincinnati, and return, at \$5; latter ticket good for transfer, to hotel or depot. At Cincinnati—See No. 18. Through fare from Louisville to Washington, and return, by this arrangement, \$21.
- No. 16.—FROM OMAHA, &c., TO CHICAGO.—Chicago and Northwestern Railway and Branches—Delegates will pay full fare to Chicago, from any station on any of the several divisions, and for their return will be furnished, by the Committee, with orders on General Ticket Agent, at 125 Lake Street, Chicago, for return tickets, at *one-fifth of one full fare*. Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad—Round trip excursion tickets, from any point on this road, to Chicago, and return, will be sold at three-fifths regular fare on *presenting orders* for same from the Committee. Burlington and Missouri River Railroad will sell, on *showing credentials*, round trip excursion tickets, from any point on the line, to Burlington, and return, at three-fifths regular fare. Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad—Delegates will pay full fare from Quincy, Burlington, &c., to Chicago, and for return, will be supplied by Committee with orders on ticket agent, at Chicago, for return tickets at one-fifth of one full fare. ~~See~~ At Chicago—For all of the above, see No. 11.
- No. 17.—FROM ST. PAUL, &c., TO MILWAUKEE AND CHICAGO, AND RETURN.—By Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad—Round trip Excursion tickets from St. Paul and stations south and east, to Milwaukee and return, will be sold at sixty per cent. regular fare, on *presenting orders* for same, to be furnished by the Committee. At Milwaukee—See Chicago and North Western. At Chicago—See No. 11. Local Connections of No. 17—St. Paul and Pacific will return delegates free, on certificate of attendance, who have paid full fare going; St. Paul and Sioux City will sell to delegates, on *showing credentials*, round trip tickets to St. Paul, and return, at one full fare; Lake Superior and Mississippi River will return delegates free on certificates who have paid full fare going.
- No. 18.—FROM SAN FRANCISCO, &c., TO WASHINGTON AND RETURN.—Delegates will buy *through tickets* from San Francisco and Sacramento to Chicago, by Central Pacific, Union Pacific, and Chicago and Northwestern Railroads. At Chicago—See No. 11. At Baltimore—See No. 12. *Returning*, from Chicago to Omaha, see No. 16; from Omaha to San Francisco, apply to Committee for special free return ticket. ~~See~~ Fare for round trip, San Francisco to Washington and return, by this arrangement, \$150, regular fare, \$269.
- No. 19.—FROM DENVER, KANSAS CITY, &c., TO CHICAGO.—By Kansas, Pacific, Hannibal & St. Joseph, and Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroads—Delegates on line of Kansas Pacific will *show credentials* and buy Excursion tickets to Kansas City, and return, at fare one way for the round trip. At Kansas City—Buy through to Chicago, via Quincy; for return *from* Chicago, Committee will furnish orders on ticket agents at Chicago and Quincy for return tickets to Quincy and Kansas City at one-fifth of one full fare. At Chicago—See No. 11.

- No. 20.—FROM MEMPHIS AND NASHVILLE, CORINTH, &c.—Delegates will buy through tickets from these points and stations north to Washington, via Cincinnati and Parkersburg; or, if they prefer, pay full fare to Louisville, using No. 15 at that point, and No. 18 at Cincinnati. On return, delegates will receive certificates to Cincinnati, as per No. 18, and orders from the Committee on depot ticket office at Louisville for free return tickets to Nashville, Humboldt, and Memphis.
- No. 21.—FROM NEW ORLEANS TO WASHINGTON.—Delegates will buy through tickets, by Jackson, Miss., Grand Junction, Humboldt, Louisville, Cincinnati, and Parkersburg, to Washington; fare \$45. On return, will receive certificates to Cincinnati as per No. 18; tickets from Louisville to Humboldt as per No. 20; and free return certificates from Jackson, Tenn., by Mississippi Central, and N. Orleans, Jackson, & Great Northern Railroads, to New Orleans. From Galveston.—Delegates from this point, or from Houston, can buy, and return, as above, and will be returned from New Orleans by Morgan's Louisiana and Texas Railroad and Steamship Line, on presenting satisfactory evidence of attendance from this Committee.
- No. 22.—FROM SAVANNAH, CHARLESTON, WILMINGTON, WELDON, RALEIGH, PETERSBURG, RICHMOND, &c., TO WASHINGTON.—Delegates will buy through tickets to Washington, and will be returned on certificates of attendance over the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac, Richmond & Petersburg, Petersburg and Weldon, Raleigh & Gaston, Wilmington & Weldon, Wilmington, Columbia & Augusta Railroads, to Florence and Kingsville. At Florence—Return to Charleston over Northeastern Railroad, on showing certificate of attendance, and pay \$2 in addition. *No reduction between Charleston and Savannah.* Local connections of No. 22.—At Savannah—Atlantic & Gulf and Georgia Central Railroads will return delegates on certificates of attendance.
- No. 23.—FROM MACON, AUGUSTA, COLUMBIA, CHARLOTTE, DANVILLE, &c., TO WASHINGTON.—Delegates will buy through tickets, via Augusta, Danville and Richmond, and will be returned on certificates of attendance over the Richmond, Fredericksburg & Potomac, and Richmond, Danville, and Piedmont Railroads to Greensboro; and from Charlotte, over the Charlotte, Columbia & Augusta Railroads, to Augusta, and from Augusta over the Georgia Central Railroad, to Macon. *No reduction between Greensboro and Charlotte.*
- No. 24.—FROM NEW ORLEANS, MOBILE, SELMA, MONTGOMERY, MACON, ATLANTA, CHATTANOOGA, KNOXVILLE, LYNCHBURG, &c., TO WASHINGTON.—The information at hand is not sufficiently explicit to enable the Committee to decide whether it will be cheaper for delegates to buy through tickets to Washington, and return free on such roads as honor our certificate, or to avail themselves of the separate arrangements of each line, which are as follows: New Orleans, Mobile and Chattanooga R. R. will return delegates free on certificate of attendance. *No reduction from Mobile to Montgomery*; Selma, Rome & Dalton Railroad will return delegates free on certificate of attendance; Western Railroad of Alabama will return delegates free from West Point to Montgomery and Selma, provided they ask for *return tickets when purchasing*. Atlanta & West Point Railroad will return delegates free, on certificate of attendance; Western & Atlantic Railroad will return delegates free on certificate of attendance, from Chattanooga to Atlanta; Macon and Western Railroad will return delegates free, on certificate of attendance, from Atlanta to Macon; Alabama & Chattanooga Railroad will furnish delegates, *when they purchase tickets*, with a return certificate, which will be good when endorsed by the Committee; East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroad will sell local excursion tickets from Chattanooga and Cleveland to Bristol and return for one fare. *No reduction between Bristol and Lynchburg.* Orange and Alexandria Railroad will return delegates free, on certificate of attendance, from Washington to Lynchburg.
- No. 25.—FROM NORWALK TO WASHINGTON.—By steamer Lady of the Lake; full fare (\$5) going, and return on certificate of attendance.

MISCELLANEOUS--The following roads, not included in the foregoing, will also extend courtesies to delegates; the Evansville, Henderson & Nashville, Louisville, New Albany & Chicago, Cincinnati & Indianapolis Junction, Springfield & Southeastern, and Sioux City & Pacific Railroads will honor certificates for the return, provided delegates have paid full fare in going to the Convention. Toledo, Peoria & Warsaw--When delegates purchase tickets they must ask the Ticket Agent for certificates, showing the fact of such purchase and the route they were ticketed by, which will entitle them to return free. Rockford, Rock Island & St. Louis Railroad will sell, at No. 20 North Fourth Street, St. Louis, June 5 to June 11, inclusive, return tickets at one-fifth regular fare to all those who present certificates of attendance.

THE ATTENTION OF DELEGATES is especially directed to those routes which sell excursion tickets *only upon orders*; the orders are furnished to us by the General Ticket Agents, and can only be obtained on application to the Transportation Committee. These routes are Nos. 5, 8, 9, 10, all of 11 east of Chicago, 17, and the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific, North Pennsylvania and Lehigh Valley (Pa.) Roads. *These orders are now ready*, and can be obtained on application to the Transportation Committee. Associations will oblige us, and facilitate matters greatly, by electing delegates as soon as possible after the receipt of this circular; and where orders are needed, send a list of the names of delegates, station from which they will start, and routes by which they desire to travel, as below, and the orders will be promptly forwarded. RETURN tickets will, in all cases, be good until June 11. CREDENTIALS. --Delegates will please observe that it is absolutely necessary that they should be provided with regular credentials in advance. Many of the railroads will not sell tickets unless these can be shown. Uniform blanks for the same can be obtained from the Executive Committee, Y. M. C. A., 23d Street and Fourth Avenue, New-York.

CERTIFICATES OF ATTENDANCE will be signed only by GEO. A. HALL, General Secretary of this Association. There will be no facilities afforded for enabling delegates to come by one route and return by another, beyond such practicable interchange of excursion tickets as delegates may make among themselves. To return free upon a certificate of attendance, over any route offering such courtesy, delegates will be required to certify upon the face of the certificate that they paid full fare on that route traveling to the Convention.

THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION gratefully acknowledge the efficient aid rendered to them by Wm. Prescott Smith, Esq., General Manager of the New York & Washington Air-Line; L. M. Cole, Esq., General Ticket Agent of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad; Ed. S. Young, Esq., General Passenger Agent of the Northern Central Railway; F. R. Myers, Esq., General Passenger and Ticket Agent, Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad, and others, whose kind attention we have not space to record.

All applications for orders, or inquiries upon the subject of transportation, should be addressed to

L. L. CROUNSE, *Chairman Committee on Transportation*,
527 14th Street, Washington, D. C.

EXCURSION TO MOUNT VERNON.--The Committee expresses the hope that the members of the Convention, after they have completed their work, will remain with us over Monday, May 29, and participate in an excursion to Mount Vernon, which will enable them to enjoy a most agreeable sail, and see a most interesting and historical portion of Potomac Scenery.

EXCURSION TO NORFOLK.--On the same day, Monday, May 29, the steamer "Lady of the Lake" will leave on an excursion to Norfolk, and return, and such as desire can enjoy a very agreeable trip to Norfolk, Portsmouth, Fortress Monroe, and many other points of interest, and enjoy a genuine sea breeze. Fare for the round trip, \$5.

TO OUR BRETHREN IN THE SOUTHERN STATES.--One influence which had much weight in deciding on Washington as the proper place for the holding of this Convention, was the belief that it would result in an increased representation from the Southern States, and the hope that the permanent

result might be a thorough revival of Christian Association work throughout the South. We, therefore, earnestly entreat our friends, of the Southern Associations, and also those in cities desiring to establish Associations, to send us a full and strong representation. Most of the Southern railroads, as will be seen, have agreed to a half-fare arrangement, by consenting to accept our certificate for free return, and we trust we may see a large number availing themselves of this opportunity of mingling with us on this occasion, giving us the inspiration of their presence, gathering fresh zeal themselves, and receiving, as we are sure they will, a cordial welcome from all quarters and a God-speed in their work of Peace and Love.

In conclusion, the Committee take pleasure in saying that indications already promise that this will be the largest, and, perhaps, most important Christian Convention ever held. The fact that it assembles at the National Capital gives it unusual prominence, and we trust that its character, numbers, and results will cause its prominence to redound largely to the benefit of our beloved Christian work throughout the country. That this may result, the Committee would suggest that on the Sabbath preceding its assembling, earnest prayer be offered in the churches, and in all the Associations, for the special influences of the Holy Spirit upon the Convention.

F. H. SMITH, *Chairman.*

CLINTON LLOYD,	E. B. BARNUM,
CHAS. B. BAILEY,	C. H. MERWIN,
A. S. PRATT,	F. W. PRATT,
WARREN CHOATE,	L. L. CROUNSE,

Committee of Arrangements.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS }
 OF THE UNITED STATES AND BRITISH PROVINCES. }
 23D STREET AND 4TH AVENUE, NEW-YORK.

DEAR BROTHER:

In behalf of all the Associations on this continent, and in the name of the Executive Committee, I most earnestly ask you to forward at once the Report of your Association for the Washington Convention, requested some time since, unless it has been already sent. It is of vast importance to the cause our Societies represent, that reports be made by all existing organizations, and we beg that yours be no longer delayed. The Committee are earnest in this thing. They feel that every Association in the land needs the report of every other. The record made up for this year should surpass all heretofore made.

Sincerely yours,

CEPHAS BRAINERD,

Ch. Ex. Committe.

24th April, '71.

To the PRESIDENT of the Y. M. C. A.

Proceedings of the Convention.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May 24th*, 1871.

FIRST DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

THE Sixteenth Annual Convention of the Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces met this day at the call of the Executive Committee in Lincoln Hall, corner 9th and D Streets, Washington, D. C., and was called to order at 10 A.M., by the President of the last Convention, J. S. Maclean, of Halifax, N. S. After singing the hymn "Coronation," the Rev. Mason Noble, D.D., of Washington, D. C., read parts of the 3rd and 4th chapters of the First Epistle of John. Prayer was offered by the Rev. G. G. Butler, D.D., of Washington, followed by the singing of the hymn,

"Stand up for Jesus."

when the Rev. J. E. Rankin, D.D., of Washington, led in prayer.

F. H. Smith, of Washington, offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That T. H. K. Enos, of Indianapolis, be elected Temporary Secretary of this Convention.

J. S. Maclean, President of the last Convention, then made an address of welcome to the delegates, as follows:

MY DEAR BRETHREN:

I, as President of this Convention, with all my heart welcome you to this City of Washington and to this meeting of the Convention. Many of us have before experienced the blessedness and the joy of meeting and communing with each other in this great work which we have in view. When troubled and wearied with the cares of business life at home, I remember the dear ones I meet at these Conventions, and my heart thrills with comfort and joy, that, setting aside all these, I can, year after year, come here and meet with you and feel strengthened, encouraged and blest. I know that many hundreds have just the same feeling and the same desires. Many of you, though, are here for the first time, and you have come here desiring to know how we do this work, and what we meet here for, so as to be strengthened and helped yourselves. I trust our meeting will be so blessed by the Spirit of God and by our own exertions as to teach these new comers so that they will go home rejoicing, greatly benefited and blessed to the Associations which they represent.

Brethren, our work is a great success. God smiles upon it. Angels assist in it. Men and women, too, everywhere, believe in its heavenly mission, and wish it God speed. How many mothers in this land and in our own land rejoice to-day at the return of prodigal sons, through the instrumentality of these Associations, and in the joy and peace of seeing them clothed and in their right mind? How many sisters and wives have rendered up thanks to God for the Young Men's Christian Associations? Therefore, we can claim the promise of God that He will exceedingly bless us, and that He will strengthen us for the future. Why is this work a success, and when will it be a success? Just in so far as we carry out the injunction and command of our Saviour when He gave us the New Commandment, "That ye love one another, that ye love the Lord Jesus Christ and your neighbor as yourselves." And that being the corner stone of our work, we can feel convinced that we shall be still further prospered. I heard in the prayer meeting, from an old gentleman belonging to Washington, that the people of Washington have been praying here all day long for a week, that God will come with you and pour out His Spirit in the City of Washington until many hundreds will be converted. He said, "*Brethren, you are marked men in this community.*" I took it as he meant it, and I felt that I was a marked man. We are the followers of Christ. You are here with your white ribbons on your hearts, representing that you are such; that you have taken manfully vows upon yourselves, and dedicated yourselves to the blessed Master's work. You are marked by God for His service. Men around you are looking to-day to see how you carry out and live up to the professions of religion that you have made. Brethren, let us live our religion; let us, as we walk the streets, and in every place, speak for Christ, live for Christ and work for Him. One word more, brethren. It is a singular coincidence, in connection with this Convention—and you will pardon me for mentioning it, being a British subject—this is our Queen's birth-day. By your real kindness and love a British subject has been placed here to call you to order in the Capital of this great country, in the City of Washington to-day. This too, brethren, just following after this High Commission has finished its work and handed in a treaty which I trust will be ratified by all in the country. The spirit exhibited here fills my heart with joy. Brethren, this is not much, perhaps, in connection with our Association; but there is this in it to you, that as young men representing the different countries come here to talk about Christ, you are making your mark upon them. We are tying them together and making each other feel that there is a tie which is closer than nationality—the tie that binds us close to our blessed Lord and Master, King in Heaven, in whom we are all heirs, joint heirs with Christ "to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that fadeth not away."

I am deeply sensible of the expression of good will to the Dominion of Canada made by electing me last year to this position, and thank you most heartily for the really kind and generous assistance given to me during the past year. I do trust we, while here in Washington, shall be strengthened and blessed and leave a blessing which will reach all over this city and carry great joy to the Associations we represent.

The Convention then joined in singing

"My Country 'tis of Thee,"

after which, by request, H. Thane Miller led in prayer, especially

in behalf of the Queen of England, the President of the United States and Vice-President Colfax, who lay seriously ill.

The President requested the Mayor of the City of Washington to take a seat on the platform ; and that Senator Wilson would inform Vice-President Colfax that earnest prayers were offered by this Convention that his recovery might be immediate.

S. S. Mathews, Boston, Mass., offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That a committee of seven be appointed to examine the credentials of Delegates and Corresponding Members, and prepare a list of the same.

The following were appointed : S. S. Mathews, Boston, Mass. ; D. A. Burr, Washington, D. C. ; James Farquhar, Halifax ; Lewis Godfrey, Greenville, Tenn. ; George S. Marsh, Whitewater, Wis. ; William E. Boies, Northampton, Mass. ; C. G. Shirk, Erie, Pa.

Henry J. Cowles, Madison, Wis., offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That a Committee, consisting of one delegate from each State, District, Territory and Province represented, be appointed to nominate permanent officers.

The following were appointed : Henry J. Cowles, Madison, Wis. ; David Bentley, Montreal, Quebec ; Thomas J. Wilkie, Toronto, Ontario ; James K. Blair, Truro, N. S. ; J. B. Botsford, St. Johns, N. B. ; Charles Palmer, Charlottetown, Prince Edward's Island ; Andrew J. Chase, Portland, Maine ; Hiram Smart, Plaistow, N. H. ; A. C. Stevens, Northfield, Vt. ; Geo. E. Lovejoy, Lowell, Mass. ; E. R. Holden, Providence, R. I. ; Dabney Carr, Bridgeport, Conn. ; John I. Platt, Poughkeepsie, N. Y. ; D. C. English, New Brunswick, N. J. ; G. W. Mears, Philadelphia, Pa. ; J. G. Bergen, Baltimore, Md. ; H. Thane Miller, Cincinnati, Ohio ; Wilson Morrow, Indianapolis, Ind. ; E. Wilson, Springfield, Ill. ; R. S. Goodman, Grand Rapids, Mich. ; T. McClary, Red Wing, Minn. ; John E. Cheshire, Omaha, Neb. ; Francis H. Smith, Washington, D. C. ; H. W. Beadle, Alexandria, Va. ; Wm. H. Irwin, Wheeling, W. Va. ; S. J. Skinner, Edenton, N. C. ; Edward T. Stokes, Greenville, S. C. ; C. Frederick Mawley, Jacksonville, Flor. ; H. K. Lindsay, Covington, Ky. ; Louis A. Rindsell, Shelbyville, Tenn. ; Allan R. Foot, St. Louis, Mo. ; R. H. Browne, New Orleans, La. ; J. S. Diehl, San Francisco, Cal.

S. S. Fisher, Cincinnati, Ohio, offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the rules of the last Convention be adopted for the government of this Convention, until otherwise ordered.

N. P. Kemp, of Boston, offered a resolution on addresses to the Convention, which was laid on the table until the Committee on Resolutions were appointed.

M. R. Barnard, Indianapolis, Ind., offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That a temporary Committee on Business be appointed, consisting of seven members, to whom all matters of business shall be referred until a permanent organization shall have been effected.

The following were appointed: M. R. Barnard, Indianapolis, Ind.; George A. Young, Hamilton, Ont.; William M. Martin, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Alvarado F. Gibbons, Charleston, W. Va.; A. H. Nelson, New Orleans, La.; D. E. Small, York, Pa.; J. C. Mackintosh, Halifax, N. S.

Geo. H. Stuart, Philadelphia, offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the members of the press, the clergymen of Washington, and all other clergymen present, and also all members of Associations not regularly accredited as delegates, be constituted Corresponding Members of the Convention.

On motion of R. R. McBurney, of the City of New-York, leave was granted the Committees to retire.

At the request of Gen. O. O. Howard, the Rev. G. G. Butler, D. D., of Washington, D. C., spoke of the work of the Association in Washington. The remaining time was spent in devotional exercises until the Temporary Business Committee, privilege being granted, presented their report, which was adopted, recommending that the Convention hold one continuous session to-day, closing at 3 P. M.; that a recess take place from half-past twelve to one o'clock, to be followed by a devotional meeting of fifteen minutes; that the last fifteen minutes before recess, to-day, be occupied by Bro. Geo. A. Hall, in an account of the religious interest of this city; that at 1:15 P. M., Reports of the Executive Committee and their agents be read, followed by remarks from the Corresponding Members of the States and Territories in which

the agents of the Executive Committee have labored; that the arrangements of the Local Reception Committee for the evening meeting be adopted; that the hour for assembling to-morrow morning be nine o'clock, the first half hour to be spent in devotional exercises.

After further devotional exercises, the Committee on Permanent Organization reported—

For President.

JOHN WANAMAKER, Philadelphia, Pa.

For Vice-Presidents.

* R. R. MCBURNEY, New-York, N. Y.	JOHN KENDRICK, Providence, R. I.
S. J. SKINNER, Edenton, N. C.	M. R. BARNARD, Indianapolis, Ind.
CHAS. CALLENDER, Newark, N. J.	CLINTON LLOYD, Washington, D. C.
NOAH BROOKS, San Francisco, Cal.	C. B. FISK, St. Louis, Mo.
R. H. BROWNE, New Orleans, La.	CHAS. PALMER, Prince Ed. Island.
T. J. CLAXTON, Montreal, Quebec.	WILLIAM B. SIMPSON, Wheeling,
M. S. CROSBY, Grand Rapids, Mich.	W. Va.

For Secretary.

* T. H. K. ENOS, Indianapolis, Ind.

For Assistant Secretaries.

WILLIAM H. HOBBS, Portland, Me. | H. J. COWLES, Madison, Wis.

R. R. McBurney, N. Y., moved that the nomination for President be received and adopted by acclamation. Carried.

Mr. McBurney declined the nomination of Vice-President. The declination was ruled out of order, and on motion of J. Chester, of Cincinnati, the Vice-Presidents and Secretaries were elected by acclamation.

The retiring President, and H. Thane Miller, of Cincinnati, being appointed a Special Committee for that purpose, escorted the President to the chair. The President elect, on taking the chair, addressed the Convention as follows :

I am deeply sensible, my dear brethren, of the high honor which you have bestowed upon me. I have no words to thank you. There are some things that we cannot speak of, even to each other. I can only whisper what my heart feels, in the ear of Him whom we love best, and thank Him for it, and ask Him to bless you all. I never felt so weak in my life. I never shrunk from anything as much as I do to take this place to-day. But, if Christ wants me, I

* Mr. McBurney and Mr. Enos having declined, L. P. Rowland, Jr., was substituted as first Vice-President and John J. Platt as Secretary.

am ready to answer his bidding. I ask you to pray for the officers that you have elected to-day. I ask you to keep in mind the grand purpose for which we have come.

As I passed along the streets this morning, I thought of the last time I was in Washington—nearly four years ago—when, with many others, we marched along the streets, keeping step to the music of the band, and hastening to the Capitol to pay our homage to the great soldier of nations, our President. But I rejoice the more to-day that we have come marching with songs of Zion, and under the banner of the cross, to gather around the King of Kings, and in the spirit of that last song, to “Crown Jesus Lord of All.” Dear brethren, keep that thought in view. It is for the glory of Christ that we have come; it is to get nearer to the cross. Let the song rise, then, often from our hearts, “Nearer my God to Thee, Nearer to Thee.”

A little lesson came to me as I sat there thinking of the vast interests that centered in this convention, and of our weakness. These beautiful flowers caught my eyes, and then I saw just that little tiny wire that suspended them there and I thought of the wire that reached away up to the loving hand of God, who answered our prayers and sent down to us beautiful gifts of his favor and his grace. Dear brethren, let us forget ourselves and see none but Jesus.

One word more. Some one said that we are “men of mark.” Let it be felt in Washington that we have made our mark. Reference has been made to the birthday of the Queen God bless her. May many birthdays be still given to her. But oh, let it be said by some of the brethren of this Convention while they stay in Washington, “Precious souls have been born again;” And let one and all make a great treaty with Christ to work for him, to take this land for him; to labor for him as we have never done in the days that are past.

Will you join, dear brethren of the Convention, in singing that familiar hymn, “Oh, for a Closer Walk with God,” and then we will be led in prayer by this dear, blessed man that we have learned to love so much, the retiring President.

John S. Maclean then offered prayer. T. H. K. Enos declined to serve as Secretary, and John I. Platt, of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., was elected Secretary of the Convention.

R. A. T. Tarlton, of the London, Eng., and John Fernie, of the Leeds, Eng., Young Men’s Christian Associations, were invited to seats on the platform, the audience rising to welcome them.

George A. Hall, of Washington, made a report of work performed by the Association of that city, as follows:

I would simply say that the Master is here in a very wonderful manner. Jesus of Nazareth is passing through our city, and is speaking to the children of men very loudly. We have had a most delightful season during these ten days that have passed. We have only to ask that you may pray for an answer to the prayer or semi-prophecy of one of our city pastors, made the other day, when he stated that it was somewhat singular that this ten days’ meeting, though appointed without thought of such coincidence, happened to be on the very days, when some of the churches were celebrating the ten days before Pentecost.

His prayer was, that as the coming Sabbath will be a day for the celebration of Pentecost, that everybody might pray that it may indeed be a Pentecost for the city and the nation represented here. Mr. Hall then referred to the social reception to be held in the evening at the Congregational Church. They would be told then about these meetings; they would be told how burdened souls had risen and said, "Pray for us;" how stricken and wounded souls had been pointed to the Saviour.

The Convention, after singing the Doxology, took a recess till 1:30, P. M.

After the recess, the Convention was called to order by the President. The devotional exercises were led by L. P. Rowland, Jr., of Boston, Mass.

The Report of the Executive Committee, in the absence of the Chairman, Cephas Brainerd, was read by Edgar A. Hutchins, of Brooklyn, N. Y., and was referred to the Committee on the report of the Executive Committee. Robert Weidensall, of Omaha, Agent of the Executive Committee, then read his Report. (For both documents, see Appendix.)

Columbus Delano, Secretary of the Interior, with six Indian chiefs, then appeared on the platform. They were briefly welcomed by President Wanamaker, and prayer was offered by Gen. O. O. Howard. After which the Convention united in singing

"From Greenland's Icy Mountains."

Addresses were made by Secretary Delano, Vincent Colyer, "Little Raven" and "Buffalo Goad," to which Geo. H. Stuart, of Philadelphia, replied.

The Doxology was then sung by the Convention.

J. F. Keeler, Pittsburgh, Pa., and J. N. Haskell, Aurora, Ill., offered resolutions in reference to the Indians, which were referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

Geo. A. Hall, Washington, announced the programme for the Welcome Meeting in the evening.

J. W. Ray, of Indianapolis, Ind., offered the following resolution, which, unanimous consent to suspend the rules being given, was adopted.

Resolved, That the President of this Convention prepare and transmit to her majesty Queen Victoria a birth-day congratulation from the Sixteenth Inter-

national Convention of the Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces.

Mr. McBurney rose to a question of privilege, and asked to be relieved from serving as First Vice-President. The resignation was on motion accepted. On motion of Mr. McBurney, L. P. Rowland, Jr., of Boston, Mass., was elected to fill the vacancy.

J. S. Maclean, Halifax, N. S., moved that W. Howard Doane, of Cincinnati, be requested to lead the music of the Convention. Carried.

The President appointed the following Permanent Business Committee: M. R. Barnard, Indianapolis, Ind.; Alfred Wicks, Brooklyn, N. Y.; A. H. Nelson, New Orleans, La.; Geo. A. Young, Hamilton, O.; William Frew, Pittsburg, Pa.; J. F. Culver, Pontiac, Ill.; H. H. Merriam, Worcester, Mass.

Geo. A. Hall announced that there would be a devotional meeting in the Methodist Protestant Church, in the morning, at eight o'clock.

The Convention then, after singing

"Blest be the Tie that Binds,"

and the Benediction by the Rev. Mr. Reed, adjourned.

WELCOME RECEPTION.

The First Congregational Church, corner of 10th and G Streets, at an early hour in the evening was densely crowded by the delegates and friends of the Association. On the rear of the pulpit the British and American flags were tastefully arranged, while flowers in profusion ornamented the platform.

The President of the Washington Association, F. H. SMITH, presided. President Grant, Secretary Delano, General O. O. Howard, Hon. Wm. Stickney, Geo. H. Stuart, H. Thane Miller, John Wanamaker and J. S. Maclean, occupied seats on the platform. A large choir composed of ladies and gentlemen under

the direction of Prof. W. H. Burlen, of the Metropolitan M. E. Church led the singing.

At 7.30 P.M. the congregation joined in singing

“Coronation.”

The Rev. Byron Sunderland, D. D., read selections from the Scriptures, and prayer was offered by the Rev. J. G. McCauley, D.D. The Chairman then introduced the President of the United States, who spoke as follows :

The young gentlemen of the Christian Associations will be very much disappointed if they expect any address from me. If there ever was an occasion, however, upon which I should have wished to deliver an address, I do not know any one which would be more likely to inspire it than to see before me so many honest faces, so many people who are engaged in a work in which they are sincere, and which I believe fully is for the general good. All I will say further is that I hope your meeting here may be attended with great good and a great national blessing.

The Chairman then said :

We had expected, until within a few minutes, to have presented words of welcome this evening to you from our excellent Governor, whose munificence, liberality and earnest friendship this Washington Association has never lacked. He is not able to be with us on account of indisposition, and I shall introduce the Hon. Columbus Delano to take his place in welcoming the guests of the Association.

Secretary Delano then said :

I regret, my friends, as much as you do the necessity that introduces me to say, or attempt to say, a word or two to you this evening. I had the pleasure this afternoon of presenting to you some living specimens of humanity who are included in the great Commandment of the Saviour when he required from you and such as we are, to preach the Gospel. When I think about those people, representatives of what the Saviour had on his mind when he uttered that great last legacy of mercy to mankind, I find myself occupied with so many thoughts and reflections that are fit to say on an occasion like this, that I scarcely know which one to direct or invite your attention to. It has been an occasion to make me think of what is very commonly alluded to, that man in all conditions, under all circumstances of existence, everywhere on this planet, is a religious animal. He is never satisfied. There is something within him that goes out, asks for and demands more than he sees. It calls upon him for faith, and there is no religion without faith. There is, therefore, connected with civilization, something that man calls religion. And now I would have you think to-night, if I had time to dwell upon it, what form of this religion is best calculated for man's progress and happiness here? So that you will see that whether his feet stand on the scorching sands of Africa, or the icebergs of the Arctic region, the peaks of the Andes, or the valley of the Mississippi, he will have religion, he will look up to something greater than himself. And in most of these forms and conditions of life he will pray, if we define prayer to

be the wish and purpose of life. So, if you will reflect for a single moment, you will see that our Christian civilization is that whereby man acquires more happiness here as well as, we hope, and as we think, obtains a better prospect hereafter. It is this Christian civilization, my brethren, that you are here to-night to advance. You came here to show us the works of this civilization, how much superior they are to that civilization which is manifesting itself in the world under other religions than that of Christ. It is, therefore, this Christian civilization with its benevolence here, with its influence that goes everywhere where it is carried, and insisted upon in purity and sincerity, that your great work is to assist in accomplishing. And if this planet and the people who inhabit it ever should be prompted to allow our religion to reign, or if ever prepared for that great day of the millenium, I expect to see it prepared in part at least, by the work of what I might call to-night the Young Men's Christian Associations' work. I cannot reflect upon the themes and topics that this subject brings to my mind without having prominently before me under consideration the perpetuity and the future prosperity and happiness of this great nation of which you and I are a part. I ask myself how far republican institutions are to extend? How much area on this planet can they embrace? How dense a population can be brought into this country and still order, law, with all their benign influences, be preserved? Don't suppose when I suggest this thought, that I wish to bring to your minds fears and apprehensions upon my part as to the future of this great work of humanity and progress under our republican institutions. For I believe your organization and such as yours may make our institutions perpetual. I believe you may compact our cities with elements inclining to disorder, compact our prairies with a population having within it similar elements of discord; but if you can preserve a purity and power the influence of Christ everywhere in the form of Christian civilization, I believe you can make the existence of our institutions perpetual. Why should I not, therefore, being in some small degree connected with this great work, say to you I am glad to meet you here at the centre of the Government, to give strength to the hands and support to the arms of the great and good man who presides over our institutions.

The Chairman then introduced Hon. William Stickney, of Washington, who said:

Delegates of the Sixteenth International Convention of the Young Men's Christian Associations:

The President of the United States and the Secretary of the Interior have each extended to you a welcome to the national metropolis. It is my agreeable duty, on the part of our citizens, to bid you welcome to the homes, the hospitalities, the hearts, the churches, and the Sunday-schools of the people of Washington. At Indianapolis, last year, we promised you a warm reception and hearty greeting. We intend to keep our word, and do our best to minister to your comfort and happiness. Our friends have generously responded to the request of the Y. M. C. A. of this city to receive you as their guests. The churches have been earnestly invoking the Divine blessing upon the Convention, and will labor earnestly to render it a triumphant success.

We wish to see a fresh impulse given to our Christian activities; new channels of usefulness opened; the bonds of fellowship strengthened; the weak and fainting cheered and encouraged, and an abundant harvest of precious

souls rescued from the power of sin and saved to holiness, to usefulness, and to God.

The echoes of the rousing songs we sung, and the fervent prayers offered last year, still linger in our memories. Again would our souls glow with the inspiration that will incite to more heroic deeds and nobler efforts. One year's campaign has closed and another begins. We meet, not for festive entertainment, nor for a dress parade, but in council. The victories and defeats of the past are to be reviewed with the hope that even greater triumphs may crown the new year.

While here you will avail yourselves of the opportunity to visit the chief attractions of our city and neighborhood.

First among these is Mount Vernon, about fourteen miles down the Potomac. The home and tomb of Washington are sacred, not only to his countrymen, but to all who would do homage to the highest virtue, the purest patriotism, and the most sublime philanthropy. Our excellent and worthy President of the Washington Young Men's Christian Association has made arrangements for an excursion to this place.

In visiting Mount Vernon, the boat will pass the ancient town of Alexandria. Whether it was founded by the Macedonian conqueror I am not prepared to say, but its present appearance would seem to render it a formidable competitor with its namesake on the Nile for equal if not greater antiquity.

Your attention will be attracted to the singular building with marble walls and wooden roof on the Government reservation below the President's (Washington Monument). The fact that splendid results often follow insignificant beginnings needs no demonstration. We have here an illustrious illustration of the converse of that proposition.

Pursuing your way east you will not fail to observe the limpid stream vulgarly known as the Washington Canal. Having ceased to be useful, it is maintained simply as an ornament. As the Board of Health propose soon to abolish this famous institution, you should take the opportunity to see it before it is lost forever.

You next come to the Agricultural Building, alike useful, ornamental and creditable to the nation and the Administration.

Adjoining that is the Smithsonian Institution, founded by the liberality of James Smithson, an Englishman, who left half a million of dollars for "an establishment for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men." No one is likely to doubt it has been well diffused.

Pursuing your way upon the banks aforesaid, you will cross the Agricultural gardens, used chiefly to supply members of Congress and their friends with bouquets, and then approach that structure which stands without a peer in this or any other country—the nation's Capitol.

In 1793, its corner stone was laid true and square by Washington. No wonder the red men of the forest, as they gazed upon it a few days ago, expressed a doubt that it was the handiwork of man.

Some few persons have agitated the subject of removing this building beyond the Alleghanies; but, as it was urged that to do so would not be treating the memory of Washington with proper respect, that its corner stone was so firmly imbedded in the soil as to render the task extremely difficult, and as Mount Vernon cannot well go, too, the project has been abandoned.

I might direct your attention to many other objects of interest in and around the metropolis, but will refer you to the ordinary means of information on these subjects.

I should not omit to mention the Women's Christian Association, as one among the many benevolent institutions of the city. Though only about a year old, it can show a record of *good deeds* of which many more pretentious might justly feel proud. You will be welcome there. With the hope that no discordant note may destroy the harmony of your deliberations, and that all may illustrate the beauty of holiness and the spirit of forbearance, and that each heart may receive such an inspiration of heavenly love and joy, that, like a swollen river, it will overflow and cause this thirsty city to rejoice and be glad on account of your presence, I close with again giving you, one and all, a warm, earnest, generous, and sincere Christian greeting and welcome to the nation's capital.

Prof. Burlen sang

"One More Year's Work for Jesus,"

the audience joining in the chorus.

The first responsive address was made by George H. Stuart, of Philadelphia, as follows:

Mr. President of the United States, Mr. President of the Young Men's Christian Association of Washington, and Mr. Secretary of the Interior, representing the government of this territory, in the name and on behalf of the 776 Young Men's Christian Associations scattered over this continent from the Gulf of the St. Lawrence to the Gulf of Mexico, from the shores of the Atlantic to the shores of the Pacific, in the name of these 776 and their 130,000 members, we thank you to-night with all our hearts for these kind Christian words of greeting to these delegates meeting to-day in their sixteenth annual convocation. Twenty-seven years ago, in an upper chamber, under the dome of St. Paul's in London, a young man named George Williams asked some companions to kneel together with him in prayer. There this Association was formed in the month of June, 1844, soon after taking root in Cincinnati, Montreal and Boston, and spreading all over the country, uniting together the Christian young men not under the banner of any single denomination, but under the glorious blood-bought banner of the Lord Jesus.

They are banded together to seek the salvation of the six or seven millions of young men of this continent between the years of eighteen and forty-five, who to-night are pressing down the broad road that leads to everlasting destruction. There is work here for us to do. Work that will tell, not only upon the future civilization of this country, but work that will tell through coming ages. We have met under peculiarly happy circumstances, for, while our platform has been graced with Governors and Senators of all kinds and descriptions, for the first time we are honored to-night with the presence of the Chief Magistrate of these United States. And President Grant, in honoring this Convention with his presence, in speaking these noble words of Christian sympathy to us, has not only honored us, but has honored himself.

On this, the birthday of Queen Victoria, and on this the day we hope will be ever afterward made immortal as the day on which the ratification of an everlasting peace between these countries shall be signed, I would say God bless the Queen and God bless President Grant, and long may they be permitted to

reign over these great free nations, the two great Protestant nations of the world; two nations that are destined to give the Gospel not only to the Indians of America, but to the whole world. Young men of America, realize to night as you never have before the position you occupy! Oh! for the burning zeal of John Knox, that we might cry, "Lord, give us America for Jesus," or we'll die in His cause. I thank you, brethren, for these Christian words of cheer which you have extended to us to-night. I pray God will pour down a blessing on the City of Washington.

H. Thane Miller, of Cincinnati, next spoke, as follows:

When I was told to-day that I was to take a portion of the twenty minutes allowed for speaking to-night, I told them I thought it was a very little time for so many great men to say much. But they assured me that in all his lifetime the President of the United States was never known to bore an audience with a long speech, and that they knew the rest of us would follow his good example. Well, I am afraid you will say to me, as a very good woman said once to her husband, (she had him in excellent training,) that is what I advise all to begin with ladies; he hadn't much voice in the house; but he was told by a friend on one occasion to go home, and he said: "When you go there kick the dog, and kick the cat, and if your wife says anything to you tell her to speak when she is spoken to." He did so. He kicked the dog, and kicked the cat, and when his wife asked him what he did that for, said, "Speak when you are spoken to." But she took him by the ear, and said, "You begun that a little to late, Johnny."

I hope that you will not feel that about me, for my commencing here late to-night was not owing to my fault or President Grant's. I want to say this to you. I think you always make a mistake in this Convention. A few old men like Stuart and myself are called upon to respond for the young men. The young men can do a great deal better, but the young men are very diffident.

We have met here, dear friends of Washington, for the purpose of standing around the feet of the Lord Jesus Christ to discuss distinctively and nothing else, the best way of serving our Master in saving young men. We want to know how this is to be done. The means that have been tried and failed, we reject. Called to practical duty as we are, the experiences of our brothers that have succeeded we adopt. So we have come to discuss practical topics. Gentlemen of the Convention don't neglect the business of the Convention.

Mr. Miller exhorted any in the house that were not Christians to give their hearts to Jesus, referring to the recent death of his beloved father, and thanking God for his aid in enabling him to bear the bereavement with resignation and thanksgiving, and making him feel the value of religion in affliction.

At the request of the audience Mr. Miller sang two verses of

"The Old, Old Story,"

the audience joining in the chorus.

President Wanamaker then said:

As we long to take by the hand the good people that have extended this Christian welcome to us to-night, I will be very brief. I must say that we anticipated much, and have looked forward for a whole year to this meeting in

our nation's capital. We *felt* the welcome before a single word was uttered. So soon as we entered the depot this morning, there greeted us in great words WELCOME. Every face has spoken it to-day. Every home has thrown its doors wide open. We have been warmly received in other cities, but we must say the welcome you have given us surpasses them all. There is but one thing more you can do for us. Let me ask you to do that one thing. Pray for us. Pray for us that God may help us and guide us in the great work that we have come to do. We invite the citizens of Washington to attend the meetings of the Convention, and the prayer meeting before the hour of its business sessions. I have the pleasure to announce a kind invitation from our noble President—another welcome for us and our friends, to visit him at the White House, to-morrow evening, from 9:30 to 10 o'clock, and, in your name, I thank him, and accept his generous hospitality.

The Chairman, F. H. Smith, announced that the excursion to Mount Vernon would take place on Monday, and that by the generosity of Governor Cooke, steamers had been provided for the occasion, that all delegates would go as guests.

The audience then joined in singing

"God Save the Queen,"

John S. Maclean, Halifax, N. S., said :

We will now respond in behalf of the Queen. I can only say I wish the Queen of England was here to-night to hear an American audience with such heart, with such affection, sing this national anthem of our great country. I do thank you for the noble manner in which you sing it.

Rev. Geo. Douglass, D. D., of Montreal, Canada, said :

I concur in the statements of my worthy friend, Mr. Maclean, in offering to you my profound thanks for the magnificent spirit in which you have given utterance to our great national anthem. I believe, sir, that a grander era is coming to this great American Continent. In conversation with a Senator this morning, he told me his conviction was that the events which were transpiring now will tell upon remotest ages ; that the confirmation, which I am told is likely to occur to-night, of this great treaty of peace, will be the means of uplifting the genius of liberty as well as inaugurate an era of peace to the entire world. I thank you again for the cordiality of your response.

The audience now sang •

"My Country 'Tis of Thee,"

and the Doxology ; and the formal exercises of the evening were closed. The remainder of the evening was given to social intercourse.

SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

MAY 25TH, 1871.

The Convention was called to order by the President, at 9:30 A. M. After singing,

"Am I a Soldier of the Cross?"

the Rev. Mr. Longacre, of N. J., read the first chapter of Colossians; and prayer was offered by Robert Tarlton, of London, England. The minutes of the first day's sessions were read and approved.

The President announced the following Committees:

Committee on Associations—David Bentley, Montreal, Canada; W. J. Beck, Antigonish, Nova Scotia; Russell Sturges, Jr., Boston, Mass.; L. C. Partridge, Waybridge, Vt.; Geo. Whitefield, Salem, Ohio; James Buchanan, Trenton, N. J.; W. De-golyer, Chicago, Ill.

Committee on Public and Devotional Meetings—O. O. Howard, Washington, D. C.; K. A. Burnell, Aurora, Ill.; Ira D. Sankey, Newcastle, Pa.; E. W. Chase, St. Paul, Min.; Edwin B. Smith, Westfield, Mass.; A. R. Foot, St. Louis, Mo.; E. J. Wilkie, Toronto.

Committee on Executive Committee's Report—John S. Maclean, Halifax, N. S.; H. L. Harrison, E. Saginaw, Mich.; F. H. Smith, Washington, D. C.; J. H. White, Davenport, Iowa; James Hogg, Baltimore, Md.; A. S. Reeves, Covington, Ky.; J. G. Parkhurst, Providence, R. I.

Committee on Resolutions—Hon. S. S. Fisher, Cincinnati, O.; C. E. Morris, Philadelphia, Pa.; T. Kirkwood, Janesville, Wis.

The Business Committee presented a report, which was adopted, recommending that the daily sessions of this Convention continue from 9 A. M. to 3¼ P. M., including a recess from 12¼ to 1 P. M.

That the order of business for to-day be as follows:

9 to 9¼—Devotional Exercises.

9¼ to 10¼—Reading Minutes and Miscellaneous Business.

10¼ to 11¼—Topic: "God's Word. How shall it be studied, and how shall the study of it be promoted in our Associations?" Discussion opened by Rev. H. M. Parsons, Boston, Mass.

11½ to 12½—Topic: "State Conventions, and how to organize and conduct them." Discussion opened by Corresponding Members of the Executive Committee.

12½ to 12½—Miscellaneous Business.

12½ to 1 —Recess.

1 to 1½—Devotional Exercises.

1½ to 2 —Topic: "Secular Instruction. What place should it have in the work of our Associations?" Discussion opened by T. James Claxton, of Montreal.

2 to 3 —Topic: "Modern Scepticism in its relations to Young Men. How shall it be met by our Associations?" Discussion opened by Rev. Mark Hopkins, D.D., LL D., Williams' College.

3 to 3½—Miscellaneous Business.

Resolutions and Memorials being now in order, N. P. Kemp, Boston, offered a resolution regarding the Sabbath; John Peterson, Leominster, Mass., on the use of Tobacco; H. K. Cormack, Frederick City, Md., Thanks to President Grant; K. A. Burnell, Aurora, Ind., in reference to Meetings; O. W. Shoemaker, Phil., on Temperance.

The above were referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

On the motion of Sheriff Thomas, Hamilton, Ontario, the Convention elected as Corresponding Member, Henry Magilton, from Hamilton, who had come to this Convention to represent a Boys' Association—the only one in Canada.

The following topic was then discussed: God's Word—How Shall it be Studied, and How Shall the Study of it be Promoted in our Associations?" Rev. H. M. Parsons, of Boston, Mass., opened the discussion.

MR. PRESIDENT AND BRETHREN:—The question before us is one of the utmost importance to the Associations. I honor the Young Men's Christian Association for carrying forward in the churches two grand thoughts. One is the exemplification of the power of that Christianity, the grand expression of that Divine Trust, for which our Redeemer prayed in the prayer of intercession, referred to already in the sessions of this body, promoting the growth of one Christian Church of all denominations. We honor this Association for that grand result. Another thing; the office and duty of the Christian Church to represent Jesus Christ aright to men, and to seek the salvation of sinners, has been shown to the Christian world and to the Christian Church in a new light by the efforts of these Christian Associations.

Now, there is one point in advance for these Associations to take—that the Church of Jesus Christ may be vivified anew with the life of God which has come down from Heaven. We are all members of the Christian Church. We believe that the Christian Church is ordained of God; that it is an institution on earth, which is competent to do all of God's work on earth. We heartily believe that there is no antagonism between these Associations and the churches, because the churches are here in them; but brethren, this Association is not ordained of God in the sense of the Christian Church. The Association is temporary in its object so far as this is concerned. When the Church of

Christ will awake to its work ; when the rank and file will gird on the Gospel armor and go forth into the battle in the name of the Lord of Hosts, then these Associations will find their work taken up by the God-ordained organization—the Christian Church, and the occasion for a separate organization will cease.

Then I submit, my chief point is that suggested in *How Shall God's Word be Studied?* How best to promote in this Association the study of that word so as to react upon the churches and bring in a new life, a new power through the whole body? How is it that the Bible which is used so freely in our land has so little power over the lives of men? How is it that in our Christian Churches the members throughout in the mass are so little animated by its spirit ; so little filled with the Divine life which is in it ; so little imbued and furnished with the Divine power which God freely offers to every believer in his dear Son ?

Now to answer this question, brethren, we have to look back a little. We see all through the revelation of God's Word that the revelation came down to men. God appeared in human form. He represented Himself so that our first parents and all who followed and loved Him received a revelation from Him. We see that revelation after the flood divided, one part going off being covered with the traditions of heathendom till now it flickers merely upon the heathen world. Another part remained in the Jewish Church until the coming of the Son of God. Notice just this thing. While the scaffolds and ceremonies of the old Jewish Church were to bring the Son of God before men, to bring Him down to human life in a human form and so express the mind of God, that the man Christ Jesus coming before the world said, "I am the Truth." What has been the result in heathendom of that truth? What do we now have to-day?

We find this word encumbered with grossest traditions in the heathen world. We find others under the bondage of tradition, such as the Jews who hold to the Old Testament letter when the Son of God came to break that bondage. I know nothing by which I can show the power of this word better in contrast with Heathenism, and under traditional rational christianity, than by two testimonies I have read. One given by a distinguished and learned Brahmin. It comes from one of the Missionaries of the Arcot (India,) Mission. It is as follows: Mr. Chamberlain, of the Arcot (India) Mission, having secured the erection of a building for a free reading room at his station, Mudnapilly, reports in the *Sower* an occurrence of much interest, thus:

"An incident occurred this (Wednesday) evening which has made a profound impression on my mind. At the close of the lecture, which was attentively listened to by an audience of one hundred and eighty, composed of Brahmins, merchants, farmers, artisans, officials and students, and which I concluded with a short prayer, as I took my hat to come away, a Brahmin, one of the best educated in the place, arose and politely asked permission to say a word. He said:

'Behold that mango-tree on yonder roadside. Its fruit is approaching to ripeness. Bears it that fruit for itself, or for its own profit? From the moment the first ripe fruits turn their yellow sides toward the morning sun until the last mango is pelted off, it is assailed with showers of sticks and stones, from boys and men and every passer-by, until it stands bereft of leaves, with branches knocked off, and bleeding from many a broken twig. And piles of stones underneath, and clubs and sticks lodged in its boughs, are the only trophies of its joyous crop of fruit? Is it discouraged? Does it cease to bear fruit? Does it say, if I am barren no one will pelt me and I shall live in peace? Not at all. The next season the budding leaves, the beauteous flow-

ers, the tender fruit again appear. Again it is pelted, and broken, and wounded, but it goes on bearing, and children's children pelt its branches and enjoy its fruit.

'That is a type of these missionaries. I have watched them well, and have seen what they are. What do they come to this country for? What tempts them to leave their parents, friends and country, and come to this, to them, unhealthy climate? Is it for gain or profit that they come? Some of us country clerks in government offices receive more salary than they. Is it for the sake of an easy life? See how they work, and then tell me. No. They seek, *like the mango-tree, to bear fruit for the benefit of others*, and that though treated with contumely and abuse from those they are benefiting.

'Now look at this missionary. He came here a few years ago, leaving all and seeking only our good. He was met with cold looks and suspicious glances, and shunned, and avoided, and maligned. He sought to talk with us of what he told us was the matter of most importance in heaven or earth, and we would not listen; but he was not discouraged. He started a dispensary, and we said: Let the Pariahs take his medicines, we won't; but in the times of our sickness, and distress, and fear, we had to go to him, and he healed us. We complained if he walked through our Brahmin streets; but ere long, when our wives and daughters were in sickness and anguish, we went and begged him to come even into our inner apartments, and he came, and our daughters and wives now smile upon us in health. Has he made any money by it? Even the cost of the medicines has not been returned to him.

'And now, in spite of our opposition, he has bought this site, and built this beautiful room, and furnished it with the choicest of lore in many languages, and put in it newspapers and periodicals which were inaccessible to us before, but which help us now to keep up with the world around us and understand passing events; and he has placed here tables to write on, and chairs to sit in, and lamps for us to read and write by in the evenings. And what does he get for all this? Does he make money by this free reading room? Why, we don't even pay for the lamp oil consumed night by night as we read.

'Now what is it makes him do all this for us? *It is his Bible*. I've looked into it a good deal, at one time and another, in the different languages I chance to know. It is just the same in all languages. The Bible—there is nothing to compare with it in all our sacred books for goodness and purity, and holiness and love, and for motives of action. Where did the English speaking people get all their intelligence, and energy, and cleverness, and power? It is their Bible that gives it to them. And now they bring it to us and say: 'This is what raised us, take it and raise yourselves.' They do not force it upon us as the Mahommedans used to their Koran, but they bring it in love, and translate it into our languages, and lay it before us, and say: 'Look at it. Read it. Examine it and see if it is not good.' Of one thing I am convinced. Do what we will, oppose it as we may, it is the Christian's Bible that will sooner or later work the regeneration of this land.' That is a testimony of a Brahmin.

I take up a pamphlet and read an article entitled "The Buddhist" "Path of Virtue," by that eloquent expounder of the New England Brahmin philosophy, Thomas Wentworth Higginson. After quoting many sentences of noble moral sentiments, he adds: "If we had been brought up to hear their eloquent sentences read at family prayers by our parents, had learned them by heart for our Sunday School lesson, had heard them recited in liturgies, intoned in chants, would they touch us more or less than when they come to us thus

freshly, just brought from an unknown language and a far-off land?" ("Radical, pp. 362.")

The Brahmin in India says, "give us the Bible, that alone can raise us." The Brahmin in America turns over the Buddhist's Bible with applause, because every thing peculiar to the religion of Jesus is left out.

The one out of his desolation cries out for the living truth. The other having drawn the highest culture from the living fountain, blindly seeks to hew out cisterns, and refit the broken cisterns of the ages, for the use of thirsty and dying men. And this result arises from the use of the intellect without the heart—the exaltation of reason above faith, in the search of Divine Truth.

The power that the Redeemer meant when He said: "He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also, and greater works than these shall he do, because I go unto My Father." That was said to the Christian Church. Now, my friends, the great point is, how shall we do these works? Earnestness will not do them. Zeal will not do them. Memory, recitation, intellectual knowledge of the highest kind will not do them. What will? Go to New-York City and ask the Superintendent of City Missions who is the best worker to win souls to Christ? You will not find that worker among the learned divines, nor in the walks of wealth and fashion—albeit many holy men and women are in all their circles. You will find her a poor washerwoman of the Old Sixth Ward. She has been instrumental in bringing more souls in a given time to Jesus than any other Christian worker in that city. How is that, my friends? She has no supernatural gift you may not have. Each one has the key that opens that door, and may receive the power that makes them living Christs to living men. Now, my friends, is not that according to our orders? HE said what? "As My Father hath sent me, even so send I you." What did he come from God for? To reveal Him to men. Go represent me! Go, reveal Jesus Christ to men by your life and your witness for him. How shall we do it? Instruction is needed in this thing. Let me have a Sabbath School class, let me prepare myself by any of the books at command, and go to the class feeling I do want to see these souls converted, and you may be as faithful as any teacher in the education of the school, and yet go home with a heavy heart because you did not go to your class full of faith. To be "faithful" is one thing, to be full of "faith" is quite another. Fidelity satisfies the conditions of reason, of conscience, even, in the communication of truth; but faith in Jesus Christ is a living power that takes hold of the heart and carries it to Him, and introduces Him there as he is in your heart.

How shall it be studied? First of all, with faith in the personal living man, Jesus Christ. That is the radical fundamental thought and principle; come into contact with and join your heart to Him, have the Holy Ghost in the temple communicating the life and truth from his own words, and you have the power that was felt at Pentecost.

I have had some experience upon this matter. I have taken a Church, the members of which were very zealous, who said, with a great deal of heartiness, "We will search the Scriptures to find out the hidden life, and the hidden Christ veiled in the letter." My friends, it took, with all our heartiness and loving fidelity and fellowship, five years for the most of us to be emancipated from the bondage of commentaries and the opinions of our fathers, handed down to us by tradition. You and I know very well when we read our Scriptures whether we have a living thought. Or when you and I converse we have the conception of an external person. So, when in the Scriptures we are using faith, we are

aware of communication with a divine person. We speak to Him, then from Him we must have the illustration upon our mind of His thought.

Take a Sabbath lesson; we come to that lesson and take a commentary and see what a good man says about it, instead of comparing Scripture with Scripture, to see if we can find out what the teaching of this Word is, so as to communicate it to others. Now, my friends, there is a vast difference between these preparations. I take the Bible without any book besides, and after praying to the Divine Spirit, the Amber of Light, in His own words, I compare Scripture with Scripture, and pray for light on the passage in hand, thus by reliance and faith in Him, receiving from the Holy Ghost what He meant to say in that passage. Now you have it, by the power of that faith in Him and the presence of that Spirit in you; so that your mind is made up as to what meaning. Then go and see if the others have found it; go and see if your Commentaries have got it. Why, my friends, we have about given up by default that great Protestant idea of private judgment of Scriptures. Many lean on the traditions of our fathers. Many lean on Commentaries to give them the truth of God, when God Himself is in their hearts to give it Himself. I ask you, my friends, if any one of you had received a letter on important business, and found some portion for a moment not clear to your mind, suppose you do not exactly catch the intent, and turning to the person sitting by you, say to him: "what is this friend's meaning?" While he is looking at it the friend comes in himself, but you keep on asking your neighbor as to the meaning, while the writer stands by. Don't you dishonor this friend? Do we not treat the Blessed Spirit so too often? Is He not in our hearts to tell us all about Jesus? "He shall testify of Me." He reveals Jesus to us as present. Then the Spirit is here to tell us about Him, and instead of asking Him directly, you and I dishonor Him and insult Him by turning to Commentaries written by good men, but none of them the Holy Ghost. We dishonor the Spirit when we turn from Him who is present to ask dead men what Scripture means.

Now, when the Word of God is searched in that way there is another result; the lineaments of Jesus Christ come out in the life, in the action, and in the face of the believer. And he has the Grace that Christ has, because Christ has formed in him the hope of glory; the truth goes out from him. I tell you there is for us a power if we love Jesus and live in him. No matter where we are, we are in heavenly keeping in the Lord, and in the power of Jesus find the help of the Spirit when we do not know it. It is possible for every one of us to know Jesus Christ in His person. There is a way of getting hold of the Lord Jesus, a teaching of us by the Holy Spirit that shall be the power of God unto the salvation of souls. That is the doctrine of the Bible. That is the doctrine we want for every member of Jesus. You are members of His body and His flesh and of His bones, and is not your Communion that of His glorious mystical body? Then, surely, we must study this Bible by faith in the living and present person of Jesus Christ before we can go out to be Messiahs to the world.

Another point. We want to have the Word of God so in hand that we can use it wherever we go, as *scrip* for change. Now, riding in the car, or conversing with men anywhere, you want to know what the Spirit says to that person at that time. In the Spirit of God you may know. The word of God goes from God's armory, and coming into your heart and uttered in faith, shall be a Word of power. The word of God is the sceptre that we have to use with scepticism. A great many men believe in argument. I do not. I never argue one minute with an impenitent man or an infidel. I believe in personal life and

personal power. I believe every one must know he is in Christ Jesus alive. That is the gospel as I find it in this Bible; as we go abroad this Gospel of salvation must be life, must be power. Many of you have seen that anecdote of that blessed man, Dr. Malan, traveling in a French coach with a French infidel. The infidel would ask a question and the good man would quote Scripture. "But, I don't believe in your book," said the infidel, and Dr. M. kept right along: "He that believes in the Son of God hath everlasting life;" "I don't believe that book." "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believeth on Him—" "But I don't believe it," said the infidel, who began to be quite angry. The Dr. stopped and said to him: "When a man is running a sword into your body all the time, do you stop and ask him to prove that it is a sword?" Six months afterwards he met him in Paris, and thanked him for that skillful sword practice. "I love that Saviour now." It was not taught by argument, by rhetoric, by zeal, nor by earnestness, but by the teaching of the Holy Spirit, bringing the truth into the man's soul, so that it is certain that by God's power of Grace in Him he will believe it, and it leaves its effect. This is our practice, it is to use the Word of God unexplained. Put into a man with the power of personal faith it lodges. General Sheridan tells us that the Prussians fight as we do—they carry a thinking bayonet. They go into battle in serried ranks, but when in the midst of the battle they scatter, and each one takes his man. Now, then, we have got to carry out this same principle in the service of Christ. We have to come into our Associations as we go into battle; every man must take his man. To do this aright, every man must be armed and equipped according to the Gospel. We must have the sword of the Spirit and the shield of Faith, the preparation that God gives, and he wants *nothing* else. He don't want skill in reasoning, nor rhetoric, nor accomplishments. No! just let him go to his heavenly Father, He knows him, to Jesus Christ, for He is acquainted with him, and he gets everything he wants. I am persuaded that in a life of holiness the most important thing is the teaching of the individual heart. That it is in the power and in the personal appropriation of it, that every believer is a living representative, so to speak, of Jesus Christ fleshed among men. There is another point with respect to the best way of getting at this in the Associations. Take that minister of Jesus whose hand and heart is with you in this work, or an earnest, competent layman, and say to him: "The workers in our Association want you to come once a week to give us instruction in the Scriptures, and we pledge ourselves to study the lesson as well as we can before we come together." You recollect the vision of Ezekiel about the holy waters rising as they fled from the supper for the healing of all things in the sea. They rose from the ankles to the knees, from the knees to the loins—that wonderful river of life. So I have thought about this blessed hand of God that is flowing from the throne of God. Out of it came the streams of the water of Life, flowing over the churches and flowing into individual hearts, and rising through all their Associations, to fill them up with the Spirit and power to the consecration of all to Christ.

Brethren of the Association, we want a good teacher. This suggestion I have thrown out is the best mode for promoting the study of the Bible in the rooms. Take the best men and women in the Association and bring them into a class, and with the pastor let them study together. You will get higher in grace and deeper in the Word of God by faith, and the waters from this everlasting fountain, from this eternal Spring of Life, of which our Saviour invites us to partake, will be within you a "well of water springing up unto everlast-

ing Life." My friends, find out from the Scriptures what God wants us to do now. Remember that the adversary, the great enemy is working inside of the Church and all over the world, to blind us by tradition, and to cover you with false knowledge. The only person by whom we can conquer him is the Son of God, our Saviour. We must go deeper in the Word, this living power must be in the pulpits, in the Association rooms, and in the prayer meetings, turning aside and neutralizing, if possible, the shafts and corruption of the enemy. Strike with the sword of the Spirit. God help us, dear friends to be more faithful in this work of searching for life, in living and avowing to the world His blessed Word—the Word made flesh—who is under the veil of the written Word, whom we do not see unless we raise that veil from the beginning to the end of the Book, and find the living, present, personal Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Son of Man, our Saviour!

On motion of T. J. Claxton, Montreal, the 8th section of the rules was amended by substituting five instead of ten minutes, for discussion.

W. S. Walton, Indianapolis, remembered the time when he could not enjoy the study of the Scriptures, and knew other young men working with the Association who felt in this way. But determined to give to God the best hours in the day for their study; at early morning, he had been in the habit of studying the Bible, and thus he got his strength for the day.

K. A. Burnell, Aurora, Ill. Nothing tells in the open air, in the saloon, in conversing among the wicked, like the use of God's blessed Word.

E. G. Garrett, Pittsburgh, spoke, as an illustration of the power of God's Word, of an old man who was convicted and converted by quoting, without argument, this passage:

"God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believed in Him might not perish but have everlasting life."

George Bishop, Montreal. Study the Bible systematically, study it daily, that the mind may be thoroughly furnished for every good word and work. Study always with prayer.

L. P. Rowland, Jr., Boston, Mass., moved to extend the time for the discussion of the topic fifteen minutes.

E. A. Hutchins, Brooklyn, N. Y., moved an amendment, limiting it to ten minutes. Carried.

After singing

"Nearer My God to Thee,"

by the Convention, Wm. Daniels, Baltimore said:

While admitting the fact that in order to promote the study of the Word of God, the aid of the Spirit is necessary, and admitting too, that the Word of God

is a teacher itself, yet I think, Sir, that we should be a little guarded on such points as our brother Parsons has put forth, or we may fall into the mistake of discarding the Commentaries and aids to the proper comprehension of the Word of God. There are such complications about the study of the Word of God that after we prepare by the help of the Holy Spirit, we have a right to call in all the aids to help us. I do not believe commentaries ought to be disregarded. Who are the Commentators? Are they not men of power, of as pure hearts and enlightened intellects as any of this day? Are we to throw aside their valuable researches when they have spent years and a lifetime in devotion to this study of the Word of God, bringing upon it all the light of contemporaneous history, sacred and profane, and illustrating it by geography? All these aids thrown open to us of this generation are worthy of our investigation. And the more we study the Bible in the light of geology, in the light of the sciences, the more will it shine, the more firmly will our faith be established.

J. O. Peck, Springfield, Mass. :

The truth we are seeking to get at lies between the positions of the brother preceding and the gentleman who has just spoken. From personal conversation and long acquaintance, as well as listening to the address, I know Brother Parsons has not intended to utterly discountenance the use of Commentaries. His point is, that by faith we should first apprehend a personal Christ, and then avail ourselves of Commentaries, sacred and profane history and geography and all that culture and science can do to make the truth in us a living truth, leaving a strong impression upon others. But bring the power of Christ in us *first*. We do not take this ground, that the personal Christ should be right in every verse of the Scripture, nor that other influences are all of no importance; but that this should be the aim and spirit and labor of every member of Christ to make their pupils see Christ in all his beauty, in all his characteristics. While he thus then apprehends him he may take accessories from many sources to learn the great plan of salvation.

J. H. Gendell, Philadelphia, moved that the order of exercises for the evening be so arranged that half an hour should be devoted to the discussion of the latter half of this question—How shall the study of God's Word be promoted in the Associations? Referred to the Business Committee.

W. A. Braman, Clinton, Mass. :

I have but a suggestion to make. Bro. Parsons suggested that one acquainted with the Scriptures should meet the Association class one evening in the week and study the Scriptures together. My suggestion is, that this lesson be studied on Monday Evening, and that this same lesson be taken by all the leaders of the meetings during the week, and carried out until their hearts are warmed with the subject, then they would be able to impress the people.

President Wanamaker read telegrams from Newark, N. J., and Selma, Ala., notifying the Convention of the organization of a new German Y. M. C. A. at the former town last evening, and of a glorious revival at the latter place detaining the delegates;

and called upon the Rev. Mr. Indor, of New Orleans, to lead in prayer for a blessing upon both localities.

The Convention then sang

“Come, Holy Spirit!”

THE SECOND TOPIC.—“*State Conventions, and how to organize and conduct them,*” was then taken up for discussion by the Corresponding Members of the Executive Committee, T. J. Claxton, Vice-President, in the Chair, and opened by remarks from H. J. Cowles, Corresponding Member from Wisconsin.

The arrangement of the Convention has been a success for one of our Western States. The idea prominent among the workers of our State was, if we were to increase the Association work among the people and raise friends for our work, we must let them know what we were doing, the objects of the Association, which I am sure nine-tenths of them were totally ignorant of. Then there is too much diversion of work by Associations. We have not meddled much with mission work; have attempted our utmost, however, for young men, not casting any disparagement upon mission work. Our great object and aim is to reach young men. A member of the Executive Committee at the Convention last fall greatly aided us in his ideas of the work, when organizing our State Convention. There must be a union of sentiment falling upon any difficulties of brethren previous to the call of the Convention. We must meet them, and there must be a oneness of feeling and of aim in regard to the object sought. In all such meetings then it will be easy to go forward with the determination that your Convention shall be practical; that it shall discuss fully and practically the point—how we can reach young men, and the best way of reaching them?

L. P. Rowland, Jr., Mass. :

This matter of State Conventions is one of the most important brought into this Convention. We had about 30 Associations represented in our first State Convention by 337 delegates. Our plan of organization was to send a circular to all Associations existing. Where we did not know of an Association, or where an Association had existed, we sent the circular to one or two of the pastors, Congregational, Methodist, &c. We would get the pastor to organize a little meeting and send delegates to our Convention. Thus we have gathered these young men representing in some form at our Convention 67 Associations, with 350 delegates representing them. I may say that the first Convention was an effort as far as possible to get all the towns represented at the next Convention. It was thoroughly successful. The second Convention was intended to learn them how to do the work in the meeting. There we found the men conducting that work in the open air and saloons. Men learned how to pray right in the street. Kneel down at a fence and pray for a soul then and there. At the 4th Convention the purpose was to seek knowledge, to be educating ourselves for the work, and to this end we invited our prominent clergymen to come in and give addresses upon various subjects. One of them was on “Manly Christianity,” the kind of christianity that enables a man to hold his head up when giving a little tract, instead of being ashamed of it, to hold his head up when talking about Jesus to a man, and grasp his hand and im-

press it in that way. That address came from one of our earnest brothers. There was this study of God's Word ; I have carried a Testament since in my pocket as the result of that Convention.

The great failure of our Young Men's Christian Associations is, doing the work that is easy, such as mission work. It is hard for us to get at these young men, but, my dear Brethren, it is young men which the Church needs at this day.

E. R. Holden, R. I. :

I did not know that I was to be called upon. Still, I feel ready to respond upon this question, feeling it is one of deep interest to every member of this Convention. It is the means whereby we show the people of our State what we are doing, and what we desire to do. Our State is small and it took some time for us to organize Young Men's Christian Association Conventions. We were two years before we got the thing before the people. Our plan has been, as the State was small and the number of delegates small, to invite to meet with us one pastor and delegate from each of the churches of the State. We find it has worked well.

D. W. Glass, Maryland: We have but little experimental knowledge of the formation of State Conventions. I therefore hope some brother will tell us just how to organize them.

R. R. McBurney, N. Y. : I understand in Nova Scotia they have been very successful in their State Convention and also in Pennsylvania and Ohio. I trust we shall hear from these three sections very soon. There was but one Association in the Province, I believe, when Brother Maclean called a Convention.

J. S. Maclean, Nova Scotia :

Three years ago I went up to Montreal to see how the Convention was worked. I sat still and listened to find out as far as possible what they were doing, and how they did it. I remember perfectly, H. Thane Miller was in the chair. His mode of conducting the business was an admirable one, and we took our cue as much as possible from him as Chairman. Claxton was an admirable outside worker, and Dodge and McBurney understanding the work, stirred us up to do good deeds. We went home desiring to see the Associations spread throughout our whole Province. By and by we met the ministers and asked if they would agree to come to a Convention in the city of Halifax. We went after the young men who were earnest workers, and tried to show them and to teach them what it was to stand up before the world for Jesus, and asked them to come to Halifax. We had our meeting, and copied as far as we could your mode. We rallied the public about it. The merchants looked on astonished to see young men say they loved Jesus. At the end of the year we had some 20 or 30 Associations established throughout the Province all at work. We were greatly encouraged. We have many ministers with us to-day heart and soul in this work. We have the ministers all over the country, and a State Convention every year since. Last year we held a Convention at Charlottetown, Prince Edward's Island. I learn they looked upon us with astonishment, and did not understand what brought us there. Very soon they became aware that there was something in us and about us to do them

good. They rallied around us there, and the Association have commenced building a hall, and will have it up next summer. At this Association their Sabbath afternoon meetings are doing a wonderful work all over the Island. This Association movement has taken hold and is just coming in among our farmers' sons. In little district Associations of 20 or 30 members we keep them at it. We send from Halifax young gentlemen to visit the Associations, and tell them what you are doing all over the country. The last meeting in Charlottetown we started a new idea. We went out to the merchants at the stores, asking all the young men to hear us before we left. We left out the young ladies. They came up in crowds, and we asked them to give their young men help to organize their work, and since that day they have gone on from victory to victory.

H. Thane Miller, Ohio, in the absence of Mr. Cheever, spoke :

Now, Mr. President, when we wanted to organize a State Convention, we wrote to the members of the Associations throughout the State, and called it at the capital of the State, resolved to adopt the New-York plan ; got there and proposed to knock it higher than a kite. Because, after organizing a State Association, it goes on from year to year just as any such organization. The Executive Committee conducts the work throughout the year precisely as if the Association was in operation. We have been carrying on a crusade of two months, continued throughout by our representatives in every organization in the State, and the result through these State Associations has been wonderful in the conversion of sinners, and in raising up dying Associations. How to organize them ? We have just used the common sense plan adopted here. At the one last year we put a grand Christian man into the President's chair. We never allowed anything to come before the State Convention that did not emphatically belong to the work for young men. For instance, the young ladies wanted to come in, but we did not want them in. They had nothing to do specifically with our work. Now I believe that is a good thing to have an International Association. So we have conducted them from the beginning, and the result has been marked with a steady increase of attention and attendance of delegates every year.

J. K. Cree, Pa. :

I regret I have not heard the report, but it will give me great pleasure to report from Pennsylvania. We have in our State, as in Ohio, a most thorough system of organization ; different heads located in the largest representative parts of the State. From these districts go out influences that have been blessed to our Associations and to the cause of Christ. We have one State Chairman and six members of the Executive Committee. These are located in six sections of the State. We have these appointed only through State Conventions. We meet together to divide up the work and assign to each a certain number of counties, and hold the representative of a particular district responsible for the general work, and get our general reports through him. The result has been, we have organized during the year thirty-two Associations. Then these heads have held under their auspices District Conventions numbering some twenty during the year. Then we have had under the General Head and managed under the District Heads a series of local Conventions extending all over the State, and just concluded at York, attended by Brothers Burnell, Morrow and others. I believe that what we need is this local organization under our general organization. It is a simple system,

and it is practicable in every State and in every District Association in our land. In this way we get strong men to help the weak, then, as we go down, what is a weak man in a great International Convention is perhaps a strong man in a State Convention, and so on. So you bring out all the available talent until we go down right to the people where we have nothing but to do our work; I feel in my position, as Corresponding Member, I owe this Convention a great deal of thanks for the great work that has been done by this great system of organization.

K. A. Burnell, Ill., said they had no such organization in Illinois.

L. B. Bottsford, New Brunswick:

We are this year to hold a State Convention, at St. John, in July. We think we want assistance. Now there are plenty of assistants here that could impart a great deal of strength to us if they will go down there. I have an invitation for Mr. Miller and others, on the 6th of July. We will give you a warm reception when the hot weather is here, and make it pleasant for you. Come over to Macedonia and help us!

A. C. Stevens, Vermont:

Some of our members at the International Convention, Montreal, invited Bro. Moody, of Chicago, to come and help us, and returned to their homes to write letters to the Associations. We met for the first time in Burlington; had a glorious Convention. The differences between the churches at that time were broken down. In St. Johnsbury the Sabbath School and Young Men's Christian Association Conventions met at the same time for three days. We make a point of inviting the Pastors of the Churches to the Sabbath School Convention, and we have all the young men of the different Associations. And after these three days we go home to do the work appointed us by the blessed Master. We would not give up our Conventions for anything. We feel it a great advantage to have the Sabbath School Convention united with the other. Some of our best workers are in the Sabbath Schools, and then our Sabbath School men get acquainted with the young men.

J. I. Platt, N. Y.:

When you called on me I thought I could not say a great deal of the work done in the State of New-York. We have held five Conventions, but have not been successful in obtaining a large attendance of delegates to them, especially at the last Convention. I did the utmost I knew how, as Corresponding Member, to stir up the spirit; and what I have to say is particularly how to get Conventions together, and to reach you who are delegates from the State of New-York. There are more delegates here to-day from the State of New-York, and more Associations represented here than ever were represented in the State Conventions of New-York. And the way for you to get good State Conventions there, is for you to take an interest in them. I think that same thing will apply to the other States. Brethren, we have got to feel sufficiently the importance of our State work. It is very important that the members of our Associations have some means of communicating with other Associations.

We appointed a Committee to visit Associations, but we found there was a lamentable want of interest in anybody else but themselves. The one great thing I wish to speak about to you who are from the State of New-York, is to remember that it is important for you to feel some interest in the State Conventions in the work in your State.

C. D. Nott, St. Louis, Mo. : The Corresponding Member is not here. We have not had a State Convention in Missouri yet.

The time for the discussion having expired, miscellaneous business was next in order.

The President read the following dispatch transmitted to the Queen of England :

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 24, 1871.

The Sixteenth International Convention of the Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces offer to her majesty, Queen Victoria, their heartfelt congratulation upon the auspicious return of her birthday. May the peace of God dwell in her heart, and the God of Peace bind Great Britain and the United States in fraternal and perpetual Union.

JOHN WANAMAKER,

President of the Convention now assembled.

R. R. McBurney, N. Y., stated that a member of the Board of Directors of the Young Men's Christian Association of the city of London, England, was here, duly accredited as a delegate to this Convention, and moved that he be received as a regular delegate, and invited to a seat on the platform. Adopted.

Mr. M. H. Hodder, of London, England, was then introduced to the Convention, and took a seat on the platform.

The time for recess having arrived, the Convention, after singing

"My Soul be on thy Guard,"

adjourned.

1 P. M.

The Convention re-assembled at this hour, and, after the singing of "Work, for the Night is Coming," "I'm a Pilgrim and I'm a Stranger," and "Jesus, Lover of my Soul," prayer was offered by J. Chester, of Cincinnati.

The President announced a supplementary report of the Business Committee, which was adopted as follows :

EVENING SESSION.—7:30 TO 9.

AT THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

7:30 to 8.—Continuation of the topic, "How shall the Study of the Word of God be Promoted in our Associations?"

8 to 9.—Devotional exercises and Christian Conference.

9.—Convention will proceed in a body to the White House, accepting the invitation of President Grant.

Memorials and resolutions being in order, the following were offered:

J. H. Gleason, Holden, Mass.—In reference to applause.

W. H. Payne, Jerseyville, Ill.—In reference to State Conventions.

Robert Weidensall, Omaha, Neb.—In reference to common Christian temples in new and promising towns.

Van Zandt Dawes, N. Y.—Of thanks to Railroad and Steamboat Companies.

B. W. Arnett, Toledo, O.—In reference to colored young men.

James V. De Mattos, St. John, N. B.—In reference to discussions.

J. V. Osterhout, Winchester, Mass.—In reference to meetings of Associations.

D. Van Horne, Dayton, O.—In reference to existing troubles in France.

S. C. Butler, Columbus, O.—In reference to work in jails, &c.

S. G. Visscher, Rome, N. Y.—In reference to profanity.

G. E. Lovejoy, Lowell, Mass.—In reference to State Executive Committees.

All of which were referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

A communication was received from the Grand Lodge of Good Templars, in session at Baltimore, and on motion of Robert Weidensall, was referred to a Special Committee of three Vice-Presidents to reply to in behalf of the Convention.

The President appointed T. J. Claxton, L. P. Rowland, Jr., and C. B. Fisk, said Committee.

The Committee on Resolutions report back to the Convention the following resolutions:

1. *Resolved*, That no delegate be permitted to speak more than once on any subject before the Convention, or more than five minutes at one time, unless the Convention, by a two-thirds vote, shall allow him to do so.

Recommended that it be referred to the Business Committee.

2. *Resolved*, That one-half hour to-morrow be devoted to the Temperance question in its relation to Young Men's Christian Associations.

Recommended that it be referred to the Business Committee.

3. *Resolved*, That every State should have a series of conventions like those recently held in Ohio and Pennsylvania.

Recommended that it be referred to the Committee on Associations.

The Report was received and adopted.

The Convention, before the introduction of the next topic, engaged in prayer, led by the Rev. Dr. Beck, of Springfield, Mass., Vice-President Clinton Lloyd, of Washington, in the chair.

THE THIRD TOPIC.—“*Secular Instruction—What place shall it have in the work of our Associations?*” was taken up for discussion, T. J. Claxton, of Montreal, making the opening address, as follows:

When the question is asked as to what is the duty of any particular Society or Association with reference to any field of action, the first point to be determined is—What is the Constitution and what the objects of the Society? In the present case this is settled by the name of the Associations referred to; they are first, *Christian Associations*, and secondly, *Young Men's Christian Associations*. In the first capacity their field of action lies in promoting Christ's cause in the world; and in the second, it is their special function to advance that cause among, and by the agency of, young men. Supposing these preliminaries to be granted, we may next proceed to consider—What concern such Societies may be supposed to have in the promotion of any kind of secular instruction?

We may regard this question in two aspects: 1st The general relations of secular learning to religion. 2d. The practical necessities and opportunities which should determine the application of general principles in particular cases.

Under the first of these heads we may affirm that secular learning is not in its nature opposed to religion, but, on the contrary, most closely allied to it. No enlightened Christian holds that ignorance is the mother of devotion, and if we are warned that “knowledge puffeth up,” we must bear in mind that this relates to the knowledge of spiritual things, unleavened with the grace of charity. On the contrary, the intelligent Christian knows that the study of nature is the study of what God has done in creation; and the study of history and literature, the study of what God has done in Providence; and that these studies bring us nearer to God, teaching us His ways and attributes. It is a bad thing to be like the Sadducees of old, ignorant of “the Scriptures and the power of God.” It is well to know the one or the other. It is best to know both.

All secular knowledge is also, in some degree, applicable to the service of God. The arts of reading, writing and speaking are all secular, but they are

most important vehicles of Divine Truth, both to our own minds and those of others; and in so far as they are thus used, they are religious things, and the man who has learned them is in a better position, both with regard to the reception of the Gospel and to its communication. For such reasons, all genuine culture, from the humblest up to the highest studies in literature and science, should be cherished and promoted by the Christian as favorable to religion, and as important antidotes to "philosophy falsely so called." Such philosophy prospers most in the darkness, whereas light, even if it be merely intellectual light, is more nearly akin to moral and religious truth.

These principles have a special significance in our time. It is a time of much light and progress in secular affairs, and the growth of knowledge is fast dissipating the superstitions and false assumptions of former days. Many things which have been palmed upon the world in darker times for the true coin of Christ's kingdom, are in the light of the nineteenth century found to bear the image and superscription of anti-Christ.

True Christianity should rejoice in this, and throw aside the cowardly and faithless fear that the Word of God will not be able to withstand the ordeal which is consuming the devices of man. But it is necessary that we should be competent to sift the pure and unadulterated truth from the dust and chaff of superstition, that our words should be seasoned with the salt of true knowledge, and that we should be prepared to make every kind of learning tributary to the glory of our Master's throne.

Farther, God's providence is showing in our time that national strength and progress, even in secular things, are allies of religious life, helpful to it, and being helped by it. It is not by accident, but by ordinance of Divine law, that the wealth, the science, the political power and liberty, and the industrial progress of the world, are in the hands of those nations whose religion is founded on God's Word; and that those nations which fetter themselves with the superstitions and tyrannies of a bygone time, prove powerless in the struggle for eminence, whether in arts or arms.

God in his just and wise Providence has set Himself to prove, by the logic of facts, that "Godliness has the promise of the life that now is, as well as of that which is to come," and it is our duty and privilege to aid in this great lesson, by doing our part to show that in all the business of life, and in all that promotes the welfare of men and nations, the Christian is more efficient than other men, and this without injury to his moral purity or spiritual life.

From these considerations we deduce the conclusion that Christian men and Christian Associations should take a firm hold of the science and literature of the time, and use it in the highest degree for the highest purposes. This argument is strengthened by the obvious facts, that want of culture, and of elevated and elevating tastes, is one of the most fertile causes of vice; and that when good men withdraw themselves from the secular progress of the age, it often falls into the power of those who destroy or pervert it.

A further conclusion is, that the Christian man in the Christian Association, can have no time for mere amusement. In some cases there may be need to devote time to the exercise of the body for the preservation of its health, but even this may be utilized. The bodily exercise of our Divine Master was taken in "going about doing good." In the case of some persons the mind may be severely taxed, and may need relaxation; but this may be just as well secured by the culture of some art or study capable of useful application. Any mere amusement which spends time without promoting the health of the body,

or the culture of the mind and soul, is clearly altogether outside of the pale of a Christian Association, and especially of an Association of young men, who should be always nerved for vigorously contending in the great battle of the Cross.

It would be presumptuous to attempt to apply these principles to every particular case. Of this, the Christian intellect and conscience enlightened by the Spirit, must be the judges in every case which may present itself. There are, however, some broad, general statements which may be made on the subject, and we may illustrate them by the analogy of a conflict or warfare, with which the work of the Christian is often compared in the Holy Scriptures.

In museums and old armories we may see ancient matchlocks and cross-bows, clumsy and inefficient, but fantastically carved and loaded with useless ornament. Compare them with the rifle of a modern soldier, and you will see that, while the latter is thoroughly and wonderfully efficient, it is entirely destitute of all the ornament and useless appendages of the older weapon. So it is with the "Sword of the Spirit." It is an old weapon, but it is thoroughly modern and scientific in its bare and keen efficiency: "Sharp and powerful, piercing the joints and marrow." It is nothing the better, but rather the worse, for having a clumsy embroidered and gilded sheath, or a quantity of useless tassels dangling at its hilt. So all the work and appliances of our Associations should be planned and carried out with direct and precise reference to the ends we have in view. The ornaments, attractions, and meretricious inducements which the middle ages thought necessary to Christian work, should be cast aside just as we would cast aside their old armor and obsolete weapons; and we must hold that primitive Christianity and modern science are as one in the great principle of simplicity and efficiency.

In like manner in an army, organization must not be lost in individual skirmishing, nor individuality in merely mechanical organization. We must have the most perfect combination of organized efficiency with individual spiritual life; under these conditions, our warfare may be carried on without any useless accessories. The cause itself will be attractive, and the victory complete. Many things at present introduced into our Associations as attractions and *stimuli* to those outside, or to members, are as useless and harmful as loads of useless baggage are to an army in the field.

The soldier in our modern warfare must, however, be aided by many appliances of art and science. He must have maps of the country in which he is operating, telegraphs to convey intelligence, railways and pontoon bridges for transportation. These are not mere baggage, they are essential conditions of the highest success. So in the Christian warfare, there are many studies which tend directly to the great end in view, and must not be confounded with what is merely secular.

Such is the study of the languages of the Scriptures, of the relations of nature and revelation, of the difficulties and opportunities of infidelity, and of those parts of prophecy which are least understood. For such purposes our Associations may well form classes, and should regard these subjects, not as the exclusive property of theological students, but as *appropriate* to all working Christians. The soldier must be clothed and fed while he is in the field, and those who regulate his movements must make provision for this; but they must do it by the labor of artisans, who may themselves be far removed from the battlefield. So there are multitudes of things important to the Christian warfare, which, nevertheless, do not belong to the work of Christian Asso-

ciations, but must be done for them by others. Thus, if there are schools and colleges, and scientific societies, and public libraries, it is not necessary that we should interfere with their work. It is sufficient that we should take the benefit of it. It is necessary, however, that indirectly, and as individuals, we should encourage and promote it, and should look on these institutions as in their way and degree helpful. It is a law of Christian work, that, what others can do as well, or better, we need not meddle with. It is also a law of Christian work, that so much as may be possible, we should take an interest in, and aid all things which tend to good, though distinct from our organization.

That narrow *esprit du corps* which would have our society manage all sorts of agencies is petty and unreasonable. That narrow spirit which would make us isolate ourselves from everything but our own specialty is, on the other side, equally petty and unreasonable. The principle of the division of labor is one of wide application. In the church itself the eye must have one function and the hand another, though members of one body; and there are many useful things which we can better promote by encouraging other organizations to do them than by doing them ourselves.

But circumstances may occur where the soldier must take time to patch his own clothes and mend his own boots; so there are cases and conditions in which an association of Christian young men may be a sort of servant of all work, having to put its hand to everything. Such circumstances are most likely to occur in small and new communities; and when they exist, all proper allowance must be made for the action of the Christian Association in secular matters.

But such cases must be regarded as exceptional, and as subordinate to the proper functions of the Association.

The main work must be carried on efficiently, even though these extraneous things, however good in their own place, should suffer.

It might be most meritorious in certain circumstances that the soldier should be competent to be his own tailor or shoemaker, but the true soldier would rather go into action with bad shoes and a ragged coat than that the battle should be lost while he is sitting with his needle.

I fear that sometimes the greater battle with sin and Satan is thus lost by our trifling with things relatively of small importance. Where necessity appears to occur for such extraneous work there are three test questions which must be applied to it: 1st. Is it in itself good and blameless and useful? 2d. Can it fairly be made to promote the direct ends of the Association to a greater extent than that in which it will consume its means? 3d. Is there no other agency by which it can be as well, or better accomplished?

Lastly, we should always be jealous of that which pleads merely "attractiveness." The admission of this plea is usually a fatal admission of the want of real value in our direct work, either absolutely or relatively to the workers, or those worked for. This philosophy is well understood by the practical man of the world, and was well understood by the earliest and most successful missionaries of the Gospel, who would know nothing except "Jesus Christ and him crucified," and were ready, in so far as self-sacrifice was concerned, to become all things to all men.

They do not seem to have found it necessary to hold fancy fairs for the poor saints at Jerusalem, to entice the votaries of vice of Corinth by billiard tables and fine music, or to deck themselves or their meeting-rooms with gold and embroidery. Their spiritual warfare was not that of shouts, and tinsel, and

clang of gongs, but of the unerring rifle and far-reaching artillery of truth ; and it is my firm conviction, that it is alone by following them in their severe puritanism, their holy ardor, and their scientific precision of aim, that in these practical and struggling days, any Christian Association, and especially any Young Men's Christian Association, can be in the highest degree successful. Our duty is to watch, and fight and pray, not to deck ourselves with ornaments and amuse ourselves with useless trifles.

When the fight is over, and the victory won, we may display our banners, and march to the sound of music, and wreath our guns with flowers ; but for the Christian soldier this triumph is not for this world. It belongs to the world to come.

The Convention sang

“ Guide me, O Thou Great Jehovah.”

J. H. Gendell, Philadelphia :

The work of the Association is to bring young men to Jesus through all the agencies, in my opinion, that a Christian Association can use to the greatest advantage. They are especially adapted to bring young men under religious influences, drawing them away from the attraction of the world and of sin. In our own Association in Philadelphia, we have many attractions which are not strictly religious in their character. We have a large library, a great portion of which are not religious books, and our papers are the leading secular as well as religious journals ; a debating society, scientific lectures, &c. In going through this building we see many similar attractions, and others which we have not, such as bath rooms, &c. And we have a number of classes in the different branches of education. Why are not these put on exactly the same basis as other attractions ? They bring young men to our rooms ; they come for one purpose, writing lesson, perhaps ; the lesson over, they hear some fine singing in the next story, perhaps find a prayer-meeting in progress. Something may touch their hearts, and get them in the habit of attending our meetings, and they become saved men. Now, in so far as these scientific lectures which are in substance classes of instruction, are equally well, our library, our newspapers, our bath-rooms and other appliances, means of attraction to young men subordinated to a higher object, I say we ought to encourage them and adopt them. In so far as instruction by the useful arts and sciences is higher than mere amusement, just so far do these classes rank higher than our games, and books, and libraries. I think secular instruction should have a very prominent place in our Associations.

N. P. Kemp, Boston :

With regard to this subject, one means of instruction may be important in one place, another may be better in another place. I think in different localities different views may be entertained. In Worcester, we have nothing of the kind in the Association. If we see the necessity, we can adopt them ; but I think we can hold social gatherings instead of these with profit.

The audience then sang

“ We all must speak for Jesus.”

The President announced THE FOURTH TOPIC, and introduced Mark Hopkins, D. D., LL. D., President of Williams College ; he was received with great applause.

MODERN SCEPTICISM IN ITS RELATIONS TO YOUNG MEN—HOW SHALL IT
BE MET BY OUR ASSOCIATIONS ?

Unbelief is regarded by the Scriptures as sin. It is the one great sin that stands between man and any good which God may have provided for him—the one sin that stands between him and the remedy for sin. It was because of unbelief that the Jews of old could not enter into the promised land. When our Saviour was on the earth He could not do many mighty works in His own country because of their unbelief, and He said that when the spirit of truth should come He should reprove the world of sin because they believed not on Him.

But if unbelief be sin, what kind of unbelief? Will it include scepticism? This inquiry is vital, for I wish to open this discussion by a vindication of honest doubt, and of free inquiry, and of the Bible, not only as not repressing these, but as favoring them. And this I wish to do because religion is so often represented as requiring a submission of the intellect to authority that is unfavorable to its independence and full development.

What kind of unbelief is it, then, that is sin? Is it of facts as substantiated by evidence? Is it of anything that presents itself as truth in the region of pure intellect? No; not simply because they did not believe a fact on the ground of evidence was there sin, but because they did not believe *in* God; because they did not believe *on* the Lord Jesus Christ.

Here, then, we have, as opposed to unbelief, two things quite distinct. One is simple belief; the other is trust, confidence, faith, for these are always involved in believing on a person. These—belief and trust—are both natural to man. They are his normal state. No man begins as a sceptic. When first revealed to ourselves we find ourselves believing and trusting. Through belief and trust we learn all that we learn, and become all that we become, and do all that we do. They are the vital air of all hope and effort. Unbelief, scepticism, is negation, and that can never do anything or give power to do anything. A man might as well hope to gain power to live by putting his head into an exhausted receiver as to hope for any intellectual, or emotive, or moral power from unbelief. Unbelief is paralysis, it is stagnation, it is death in relation to all that it rejects. There is in it no working power, no possibility of the appropriation of a salvation that is to come through truth and through the acceptance of Christ. So it is, not in religion only, but in everything. Except as we believe something, we can never intelligently do anything. We plow because we believe we shall get a crop. We dig for the ore because we believe it is there. We come to God because we “believe that He is, and is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.” Universally, unbelief and distrust must preclude benefit from that which is not believed in, and from a person so far distrusted as to be rejected in anything he may offer himself to us for.

Belief and trust are fundamentally allied, but are not the same; and because they are thus allied they need to be the more carefully distinguished. Belief must precede trust, and is an element in it. Belief is from the intellect; trust is from the affections and the will. Belief respects facts and relations; trust always rests on a person. We believe on the ground of evidence; we trust on the ground of character. Belief, in some cases at least, is not subject to our will, and never directly; trust always involves an act of choice, and so of will. Through belief we enter into the great realm of truth; through trust we enter into the higher realm of the affections. We believe a truth; we believe *on* a person.

Of belief the proper object is truth, and its instrument is the intellect. This God has given to man as he has given him sight, and its efficient and right use is a condition of those higher affections by which we are united to him. Over against the intellect thus given God has set the reality of things, as he has set visible objects over against sight; and this reality of things, being apprehended and stated, becomes truth.

Of truth, in this view of it, and as tested by both reason and Scripture, our estimate can not be too high.

As representing the reality of things it is obvious to reason that truth must be the light of the intellect. It is the only light in which a man can walk intelligently under his own guidance, and he might as well think it of little consequence whether he shall see correctly the objects and distances around him, as to think it of little consequence what he believes. It is with the reality of things that we have to do, and success or failure waits and must wait on our conformity, or want of conformity, to this reality. A want of such conformity may be from ignorance, or from wickedness; it may be a blunder or a sin, but from such want in one or the other of these forms it is that all failure and disaster come.

And in this high estimate, by reason of the value of truth, the Scriptures coincide. They tell us that Christ came to bear witness to the truth; that we are to grow by the truth; to walk in the truth; to obey the truth; to purify our minds by obeying it. We are to have our loins girt about with truth. It is the truth that is to make us free. Christ prayed the Father that he would sanctify His disciples through the truth. Salvation is "through sanctification of the spirit and belief of the truth." Not all truth will produce these effects, but only *the* truth; and this can produce them only as it is known and brought into living contact with the soul. It is a strange misapprehension for Christians to suppose they can grow while they are indifferent to the truth. As well might we hope for physical life without food as for intellectual, or moral, or spiritual life without truth.

But as reason and the Scriptures coincide in their estimate of the value of truth, so do they respecting the duty of seeking it earnestly and impartially.

Has God endowed us with this intellect? And is it, demands Reason, to be cramped, restricted, limited, dwarfed? Is it not, on the other hand, to be in every way quickened, strengthened, enlarged? Is there any knowledge of God or His works, of facts or relations, that is not good for it? We say no. We say that we here come into a region which God invites all to enter, and into which, as governed by its own laws, authority has no right to come. The laws by which this region is governed are the laws of evidence. If they require us to believe, we are to believe; if to doubt, we are to doubt; if to disbelieve, we are to disbelieve. Truth is one. It does not depend upon will. We are as much to see it as it is, as we are to see the objects before us as they are; and the laws of evidence are as independent of us and as necessary as the laws of light. Light may be refracted, it may be colored, it may be dim; we are liable to mistake and need care, but God has given us eyes, and with care we can ascertain the qualities of objects around us. At any rate our eyes must be for us the ultimate authority in what pertains to objects of sight.

And so it must be with the intellect. Its office is to know; its object is truth; its light is evidence. We need care, but we are capable of knowing what we need to know, and concerning objects within the field of intellect the final appeal must be to intellect. We are never to believe anything for which

there is not more evidence than there is against it. We are never to believe anything which it is not more rational to believe than it is not to believe it. We are responsible for our opinions because the will comes in to determine whether we will examine all the evidence and weigh it fairly. So far, and no further, what we need here, and all that we need, are earnestness and candor—earnestness to search out all the evidence on both sides of every question, and candor that we may estimate it without bias. Give us earnest, broad, fair-minded men, and we have no fear of investigation to any extent on any subject, be it literature, science, philosophy, or religion. Give us the truth and we are content.

And here again, as has been said, the Scriptures conspire and harmonize with reason. They call upon us to “take fast hold of instruction and not let her go;” to “receive instruction and not silver, and knowledge rather than gold.” They call upon us with all our getting to get understanding; to “buy the truth and sell it not.” They call upon us to “prove all things, and to hold fast which is good.” It is the glory of Christianity that it is a religion of light. “God is light.” In Him is no darkness at all, and those who have fellowship with Him are to “walk in the light, as He is in the light.”

Here, then, we reach our first position. It is that of the right of private judgment, and of the entire freedom and independence of the intellect. When that alone is concerned, if the evidence does not justify belief, no blame can be attached to doubt or unbelief.

Taken by itself, what has now been said seems plain; but the inquiry arises, How can the intellect be free under a system that makes unbelief a sin?

It could not if the intellect alone were in question; and we must here recur to our distinction between belief and trust—between the simple belief of a fact and believing on a person. If a person is to be believed on he must stand in some personal relation to us, and offer himself to us in some way of service or aid. The question of believing on a person is always practical. To do it implies, first, that we feel the need of the aid offered; second, that we believe the person offering the aid is able and willing to give it; and, third, that we commit ourselves to him by an act of choice or will to be aided in that which he offers himself to us for. The man is sick and feels his need of aid; he believes the physician can cure him. He commits his case to him. That is all. He does not believe *on* him till this last act is done, and a refusal to do that is practical unbelief. The question at this point has no reference to the quantity or the quality of the belief, to its being or not being accompanied by emotion, but to the entering into it of a new element from the will by which it becomes trust. If we include intellectual unfairness it is here only that the moral element comes in, and here especially that the censure or commendation of the Scriptures rests.

In all this the intellect is concerned. In one part of the process, that which judges of the competency and willingness of him who offers aid, it acts alone; but so far as it is concerned, it is to be governed by evidence, and is to perform its processes with the same freedom and independence as elsewhere. It has the right, nay, it is bound, to scrutinize fully the claims, not only of any one who presents himself to be believed simply on his own testimony, but especially of any one who presents himself as claiming to be believed on. In doing this, the attitude of the mind should be determined by the character and claims of the person to be believed on. Great humility and reverence may be required, but this will not preclude free inquiry, for even God challenges scrutiny in regard

to his claims, and offers himself to the rational acceptance of His creatures. Nor need the intellect always act logically. Intuition may come in. There may be something in the eye, the aspect, the voice of him who offers himself, something in the offer he makes as meeting or not meeting our needs which we could not state, but which would supersede logical evidence and furnish an adequate and rational ground of conduct. But however reached, such ground we are to have, and having it, there may or may not be sin in rejecting one who may offer himself to be believed on. The sin, if any, will lie in the moral blindness which fails to see its need, and in the recklessness, or perverseness, or ingratitude which fails to accept of proffered aid.

Here, then, we reach our second position. As it has been said in regard to the intellect that we are to believe nothing which it is not more rational to believe than not to believe, so now we say that we are not to trust any one for anything whom it is not more rational to trust for that thing than it is not to trust him.

Always the freedom and independence of the intellect are to be respected. This makes the whole process rational, and removes any possible ground of conflict between faith and reason, since faith is simply trust in a person for that for which he offers himself to us. He who trusts his fellow-man for all that for which he offers himself to him has faith in that man. He who trusts Christ fully, utterly, for all that for which he offers himself to him has faith in Christ, and he who trusts God in the same way has faith in God. The only unbelief which the Scriptures condemn, except, as has been said, that which comes from unfairness of mind, consists in no independent or free act of the intellect, but in that complex act by which the man refuses to yield to Christ and to God that confidence which is their due when they offer themselves to him in those vital relations on which his well-being depends.

But what of scepticism in all this? Are unbelief and scepticism the same? So they seem to have been regarded originally. At least the Scriptures scarcely recognize that separation of avowed conviction and action so unnatural, yet so common in our day. It was supposed in those days that a belief that Jesus was the Christ would be followed by a reception of him, and the Scriptures do not seem to recognize anything as belief which does not do this. Hence the term unbelief included scepticism, and covered the whole ground.

But, as we have seen, in believing on a person there are two elements. It is possible to separate the belief from the trust. Together they are that one concrete act of the whole man which the Scriptures call faith, but distinctively the belief is from the intellect, and the trust from the affections and the will. In the Scriptures it is the believing on a person that is made the turning point. Hence that is made prominent. In that the affections and will must come in. But there is a large field of religious truth which does not immediately involve belief on a person. In this field questions arise that are for the intellect solely, and yet which may be so decided that trust in God or in Christ shall be impossible. Such are the questions of the Being, of a personal God, of our responsibility to Him, and of a future state; and it is in the field where such questions arise that we find the exact place of scepticism as now understood. *It consists in a disbelief of those essential truths, without which religious trust is impossible.* He who so disbelieves speculative truth that it is impossible for him to trust in God is a sceptic in relation to God; and he who so disbelieves speculative truth in regard to the person, or character, or work of Christ, is a sceptic in relation to Christ.

Is, then, scepticism as well as unbelief sinful? If God has put within the reach of man evidence which ought to convince him, yes; if not, no. Has God done this in relation to these essential truths? So the Apostle Paul thought, respecting one of them at least, when he said that "the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse." So we think in regard to all cardinal truths. We believe that God has given such evidence of them as ought to convince every man. It is only from the impression that religious scepticism exists despite such evidence that odium is attached to it. How far this may be unjust in individual cases God only can judge; but when we look at the evidence for these truths without and within us, it can be no breach of charity to say that the great mass of scepticism as above defined is not from want of evidence. There are conditions for the attainment of religious as well as of scientific truth. Is the sceptic sure he has complied with these? Is he sure that his choice of a supreme end is right? If not, is he aware of the subtle and pervading influence of a wrong choice in that to deaden and pervert the intellect on religious subjects? Is he sure that the ultimate bearing of the truth in question—a thing that men see afar off, and as by instinct, has given him no bias? Has he examined the evidences for the Bible, and studied the book itself as he should? Has he felt his need of light from above, and with the spirit of a child and the importunity demanded by the interests in question, asked Wisdom of Him who has promised to give it liberally? I have seen no such sceptic. I do not believe there is such an one. But if there be, the scepticism which I oppose is not that. It is one which has its roots, manifested or concealed, in the affections and the will; one in which there has been a failure at some point to meet the conditions which may fairly be demanded for the attainment of religious truth.

Such is scepticism as we view it. It is the same in substance in different ages, but protean in form. In temper it is sometimes cynical, sometimes philanthropic. Now it works under the garb of transcendentalism, now of metaphysics, now through critical or antiquarian research, now through literature, and now through science, passing from one to the other, according to the fashion of the day, or as may best serve its purpose. In my early days the scepticism dreaded was that of Hume and Voltaire. That of the one was metaphysical, questioning first truths and unsettling the ground of all belief. That of the other was light, sarcastic, mocking, making a show of learning, but not profound, and using ridicule as its chief weapon. They were the same thing, but one was Scotch and the other French. The alarm, as I remember it, was greater then than now. But the metaphysics did service, because there was something for them to pull down. They were opposed to a false theory of the origin of knowledge and of primary ideas. The ridicule, too, was effective, because it was against the absurdities and corruptions of the Catholic Church. The result was that in England, in this country, and in Germany, the foundations of truth were better seen and more fully established. In France the ridicule did not cure the corruption. Ridicule may kill what is ridiculous, but never cures anything, and that, and the corruption, have made France what she is to-day.

But what is the present phase of scepticism? Quite different from that of Hume and Voltaire, its main peculiarity and source of power is from its association with physical science. The marvelous advance and expansion of thi

is, perhaps, the great feature of the present age. It discriminates it from all preceding ages, and furnishes the ground for a new starting point to man. It gives leisure, wealth, and a consciousness of power greater than ever before. It so harnesses forces, and analyzes substances, and subsidizes elements; so penetrates the vast, and scrutinizes the minute, as to kindle the imagination and cause man to project himself into the future as of gigantic proportions. Depending on observation and experiment for its facts, and largely on mathematics for its deductions, it arrogates to itself the name of science *par excellence*, as reaching a certainty unattainable in other departments. Thus, conferring benefits, and awakening hopes, and claiming certainty, anything associated with it, or having its sanction, especially anything that claims to be it, must present itself at a great advantage. And this is precisely what scepticism now does. In some of its forms it associates itself with physical science; in others, as positivism, and in the theory that regards abstract force as God, it claims to be science, and the only science possible.

Thus associated, and with such claims, scepticism now presents itself to young men in an attitude probably more attractive than ever before, and we need not be surprised if many are drawn away by it. Everywhere around them they feel the breath and catch the spirit of a new movement and era. They are conscious of an uplifting, as by the groundswell of vast forces. They are conscious of entering, not only upon the heritage of a new continent that is just beginning to reveal its vast treasures and boundless resources, but also upon the heritage of those great natural forces which will enable them to avail themselves of those resources and to multiply them tenfold. All this should lead to grateful wonder and to a recognition of the intelligence and goodness that has made such provisions.

Let it do this, and through the doing of it let these treasures and forces be wielded by the energy and guided by the wisdom of Christian young men, and what a continent would the sun look down upon at the end of the next fifty years! What belts and intersections of railroads and telegraphs! What commerce upon its waters! What wealth in its cities! What villas on the hill-tops, and slopes, and prairies! What schools and colleges, amply furnished and endowed! What "running to and fro!" What increase of knowledge! What churches—all paid for! What missions to the benighted! What culture and social intercourse! What men! What women! Surely, this nation stands on the borders of an inheritance richer and ampler than that of Canaan, with no Jordan rolling between. Nothing but unbelief can prevent it from entering in and taking possession; and you, young men, are those who are called upon to take up the ark of God and "go forward." With that in our midst, there will be triumph; without it, defeat—defeat through this very goodness of God.

No people has ever yet been able to bear prosperity. No nation has ever yet been richly dowered in soil and climate that has not fallen through the very gifts that ought to have made it great. The tendency to self-sufficiency and self-indulgence is too strong. The greater the power and the enjoyment to be gained the greater is the desire for that freedom from restraint which scepticism gives. Hence the cry, "No God." Let us exclude Him and the inheritance shall be ours.

Such is modern scepticism. How shall it be met by our Associations?

It is to be met by them just as it would be by an individual of good common sense: and

First. We are not to be afraid of it. We are to divest ourselves and, if possible, free others from any impression that scepticism involves superior sagacity or strength of mind. There has been an assumption of this on the part of sceptics and an admission of it by others for which there is no foundation. Scepticism may indicate power, but never the highest power, either in kind or degree. It may, also, and more often does, indicate weakness. The highest form of power is in affirmation and construction. So God intended. The greatest men have always been builders. But scepticism is negation. Its work is destructive; and to deny, to doubt, to object, to find flaws, to destroy anything that can be destroyed, is comparatively easy. It does not require the highest form of power, and is a kind of work in which a thoroughly healthy and robust intellect does not readily engage. Strength is indicated by estimating evidence just as it is, and by believing, doubting or disbelieving, according to that. To accept as evidence what is not evidence is weak. That is credulity. Not to recognize as evidence that which is evidence, is also weak. That is scepticism, and which shows the greater weakness it would be difficult to say. Credulity is often from indolence, and tends to superstition. Scepticism is often, perhaps most often, from vanity, and tends to conceit. Strength finds the rock and builds upon it

Second. We are to distinguish between facts and inferences.

Much of what is called science is mere inference. It may be the inference of scientific men, but it often happens that those most reliable in observation are least so in inference. When Darwin states the fact that a black bear was seen swimming in the northern seas, and opening his mouth to catch the insects on which the whale feeds, we are to accept the fact, but not necessarily his inference that by continuing to do this bears might ultimately become aquatic animals and as monstrous as whales. When he observes similarities heretofore unnoticed between man and the lower animals we may accept the facts without adopting his inference that the progenitor of man was a monkey—probably an African monkey—and more remotely a low aquatic animal. Of the fact that the Cardiff giant was dug up in the State of New-York there can be no doubt; of the inference from that fact by a distinguished palæontologist that it must have lain there at least ten thousand years we may be permitted to doubt.

It is also to be observed here that we are to be careful respecting our own inferences, and not to charge men with holding facts and theories incompatible with the Bible and religion when they are not. This has often been done, and the past is strewn with dead issues that have been fought over with fury, but are now seen to have had no relation to essential truth.

Third. In dealing with scepticism we are to welcome candidly and fearlessly all truth, and to respect every honest doubt.

On the first part of this proposition enough has been said, nor need I enlarge on the second. In the mind of a being coming forward as man does, doubt is as legitimate as the uncertainty of sight in the twilight. For every young man there is a period of doubt as he comes up to the great questions of all time and begins to wrestle with them. This is a critical period. It is not necessarily sceptical doubt, but the doubt of ignorance and of inquiry. He is willing to believe, but needs sympathy and light. Give him these. At the same time win him over by every legitimate means from evil associations and from vice, and in almost every case he will come out into clear vision. Reproach and repression of inquiry will have an opposite effect.

I will only add that the most efficient remedy against scepticism, which

young men connected with Christian Associations can employ, is the cultivation and exercise by themselves of the very faith they wish to produce in others.

This is in accordance with the great law that like begets like. Would you produce kindness in others? Manifest kindness before them and to them. Would you produce forbearance? Be forbearing. Would you produce hostility? Manifest hostility. And so, would you produce faith in others, you must manifest before them and toward them the fruits of faith. If an intellectual result simply were aimed at this would not be so; but, aiming at a practical result, nothing can be substituted for this. Without this there may be arrangements, expenditures, meetings, addresses, but the work will be superficial. The unleavened mass, untouched by any particle with the true leaven in it, will remain unchanged. The whole secret of the spread of Christianity over the world is in this figure of the leaven. It is fire that kindles fire; love that kindles love; Christianity manifested that spreads Christianity. Talent, learning, conviction from argument, are well in their places, but avail little. Belief is needed, but it must be in the form of trust. It must be belief on the Lord Jesus Christ. *There must be in it the acceptance of Him for all that for which He offers Himself to us, and sympathy with Him in all that he proposes to do.* In such a belief there is life; and in life there is power; and in the instincts of all life there is practical guidance. Under such inspiration and such guidance, which will be really that of the spirit of God, the best forms of organization and of effort will be readily reached. Money will not be wanting. The ministry will be sustained. The great problem of lay labor, which is the problem now before the Church, will be solved. Denominational lines will be practically obliterated; and the pallid and protean form of scepticism will vanish before the combined power of light and love. As this paper is to be made the basis of a discussion it may be well to state its main positions, in their natural order.

1. That scepticism is not the natural state of man, and can confer upon him no positive good.
2. That truth, not all truth, but *the* truth, is vital to the well-being of man, and that both reason and the Scriptures teach that it is so.
3. That truth is to be sought earnestly and candidly, but that it is to be received on its own evidence only when it is rational so to receive it, and on the testimony of others only when it is rational to receive that; and that reason and the Scriptures agree in teaching this.
4. That in believing on a person belief gets an element from the will and becomes trust; that the person offering himself to be believed on may be in such relations as to make this form of unbelief sinful, and that this is the unbelief most strongly condemned in the Scriptures.
5. That if we separate the two elements of belief and trust, scepticism will be a disbelief of those truths which underlie trust, and without which that is impossible.
6. That this scepticism will generally, probably always, be a sin, but only if there be some failure in meeting the conditions that may fairly be required for the attainment of religious truth.
7. That scepticism is always one in substance, but protean in form, and that from its association with physical science it now presents itself with peculiar attractions to young men.
8. That in dealing with scepticism we are, first, not to fear it; it has strength, but there is something stronger; second, we are to discriminate in-

ferences from facts ; third, to accept all truth, and respect every honest doubt ; and fourth, to be ourselves examples of that living faith which we would produce in others.

William H. Payne, of Jerseyville, Ill., moved that this address be published by the Executive Committee. Referred to the Business Committee. After singing,

“ My Faith looks up to Thee,”

remarks on the topic were in order.

H. A. Staples, Wakefield, Mass.—I present to the sceptic a pure light which he can receive and weigh. We want to be chaste in our language. We want to be pure and hallowed in our lives and thoughts.

H. C. Morris, Philadelphia : These young men, in whose hands Dr. Hopkins has placed the weapons to battle error, thank him from the bottom of their hearts. He has shown his interest for the young men by presenting here this able address.

H. A. Staples moved that the thanks of the Convention be extended to President Hopkins for the delivery of his able address. Carried.

General O. O. Howard :

Infidelity meets us in such a variety of forms, and under such a variety of circumstances, that it is difficult for us to apply any one remedy to the whole, unless it be the one remedy of Christ, who is all in all. I suppose that the scepticism meant here is the scepticism of modern times, coming from a highly intellectual class of people who write in our magazines and our religious newspapers, and preach in our pulpits. To meet that practically is what we, as young men, want to know how to do. Many of us are not able to cope with those men in reason ; many of us have other things to do. We are sent forth by the Master to do certain things ; but certainly the life we lead in their presence they cannot mistake. But as President Hopkins says, “ Never be afraid of any man.” We know in the beginning that he is wrong, and we can afford to look him straight in the face. We can afford to bring him back again to the simple words of our Saviour, and we must remember always that the most powerful weapon in the hands of a young man is the words of Scripture. Men of the present day very often call it cant, cant, and throw it in your face, but the Scriptures is the best weapon.

I remember once meeting a man who had read all the works of Paine and Voltaire and Hume, and he was well prepared in every topic. I could at first make no impression on him, but I asked him finally if he had read a certain commentary. He said he had not. I advised him to read it, and he did read it, and he found that many of the things were true that he thought were false. The spirit of God opened his heart, and shook him like an aspen leaf, and he used to follow me to my house and peep through the blinds to see whether I behaved at home as when with him.

I presented a very few arguments, but the result of it was that this intellectual man gave up his unbelief, and came to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ.

I find, however, that the great majority of the unbelievers are amongst those who are wedded to sin, and they know they are wrong. They try to fortify themselves in every possible way, but they know they are wrong, and if we meet them fairly and truly they will confess it. This question of the practical method of meeting scepticism is a great question; but I assure you that the simple believer in the Lord Jesus, one who can say that "whereas I was blind, now I can see," is the most powerful person to meet scepticism anywhere.

I was once present at a series of meetings at West Point, and though we had quite a number of intellectual men there, great preachers, they seemed to produce no effect; but there came along a young man who had recently found his Saviour, who had been snatched like a brand from the burning, and was brought out of the darkness into the light of Gospel truth. He stood up, and just told the simple story of the cross, and he melted the audience into tears, and men who disbelieved, who had intellectual misgiving, gave up their unbelief, and the whole community was brought to the "Lamb of God that taketh away the sins of the world." The reason of this is, that God don't require the great instruments, but the simple presentation of the truth. He wants the simple loving of the truth to convince men of their error.

George H. Stuart, Philadelphia, said he had been desired by Vice-President Colfax to express his thanks to the Convention for their interest and prayers in his behalf. He is resting upon the Rock Christ Jesus, and desires a continuation of your prayers.

The Report of the Business Committee for the next day was then made by their Chairman, Mr. Barnard, as follows:

FRIDAY MORNING.

9:00 to 9:30—Devotional Exercises.

9:30 to 10:15—Reading Minutes and Miscellaneous Business.

10:15 to 11:45—Report of Committee on Executive Committee's Report, and consideration thereof.

11:45 to 12:15—Topic, "Money for support of our Associations, and how shall it be raised?" Discussion opened by John Wanamaker, of Philadelphia.

12:15 to 12:30—Miscellaneous Business.

FRIDAY, P. M.

12:30 to 1:00—Recess.

1:00 to 1:15—Devotional Exercises.

1:15 to 2:00—Temperance Question in its relation to Y. M. C. Associations. Discussion opened by J. W. Shoemaker, of Philadelphia.

2:00 to 3:00—Topic, "Obstacles in the way of organizing and maintaining Associations." Discussion opened by T. K. Cree, of Pittsburgh.

3:00 to 3:15—Miscellaneous Business.

Adopted.

The Committee further report on two resolutions presented to them :

Resolved, That no Delegate be permitted to speak more than once on any subject before the Convention, or more than five minutes at any one time, unless the Convention, by a two-thirds vote, shall allow him to do so.

Recommending its adoption, except that it do not refer to the first speakers on the special topics agreed upon.

Resolved, That the President be requested to appoint a member of the Convention, at the opening of each discussion, to prepare a synopsis of said discussion, and to submit the same to the Convention for their approval.

Recommending that it be laid on the table.

Geo. H. Stuart: How desirable it would be to have a synopsis of the speeches to-day.

R. R. McBurney: We have a reporter, paid for the express purpose, and they will appear in the proceedings of the Convention.

The recommendations of the Committee were adopted.

K. A. Burnell read the report of the Committee on Devotional Meetings, which was adopted.

R. R. McBurney moved, that on account of the meetings being appointed for the evening, which would be likely to create confusion, that hereafter the Committee on Devotional Meetings consult with the Business Committee before reporting to us here.

Adopted.

H. Thane Miller moved that the meeting to-night in Lincoln Hall be postponed.

Adopted.

After singing the Doxology, and the pronouncing of the Benediction by the Rev. John E. Cookman, of N. Y., the meeting adjourned, to meet in the Congregational Church, at 7:30 P. M.

EVENING SESSION—THURSDAY.

The Convention re-assembled in the Congregational Church, and was called to order by the President, at 7:30 P. M. After singing,

“ Children of the Heavenly King,”

and

“ Father, whate’er of earthly bliss,”

the Rev. Mr. Leggett, of N. Y., read part of the second chapter of the 1st Epistle of John. Prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Garvie, of Windsor, Nova Scotia. The hymn,

"Joy to the world, the Lord is come,"

was then sung; when the discussion of the latter half of the topic considered in the morning session—

"HOW SHALL THE STUDY OF GOD'S WORD BE PROMOTED IN
OUR ASSOCIATIONS?"

was continued, C. B. Fisk, St. Louis, Mo., in the Chair.

Charles E. Morris, Philadelphia :

I answer, one way is when Associations work in Bible classes. How to conduct these Bible classes? I think we may go to the Sabbath School and the Churches for an answer to this question. What are they doing? They have a series of Sabbath School Lessons distributed all over the land, through the National Teacher and the Bureau Series. These lessons are known beforehand to the classes. How shall we reach our members in the same way? If a committee was appointed to prepare a series of lessons, to be published in THE MONTHLY, and these be sent into every town that takes the paper—and every one ought to take it—what would the result be? The Young Men's Christian Associations would be studying the same lesson. I believe in charts and commentaries, and that we should furnish ourselves with all the help possible for us to get. I believe in these lessons appointed beforehand, and studied by all these helps, and by prayer to take in the truth; and one will come to these Bible classes filled with power and able to make it suggestive.

J. W. Willett, Providence, R. I. :

I think the best thing for the Young Men's Christian Associations, for the promotion of this study, is to go into the Sunday Schools, every man of them, as teachers or pupils.

J. W. Osterhout, Webster, Mass. :

I don't see any reason why there should be any peculiarity about young men organized in Christian Associations studying the Word of God. I claim they must study it on the same principles and under the same conditions as every person studies it.

S. G. Dawson, Toledo, Ohio :

I only want to ask attention to a practical idea of the address this morning. The brother said we would be largely benefitted if we would find the best man possible in the ministry, or out of it, in one particular locality, who will be a teacher of Young Men's Christian Association Bible Classes, and I believe that would be one of the very best things that could be done, in order to qualify these young men for this special work. It strikes me as most forcible, and may be carried out in every Association.

L. B. Botsford, St. John, New Brunswick :

What I want to have an expression of in this Convention is, whether the plan before us for a lesson to be general all over the world is best, or whether it be best to leave it to individual action.

G. C. Whitfield, Salem, Ohio :

The Apostle says : " The things of God are spiritually discerned. The carnal mind cannot know them," because they are spiritually discerned. Hence we cannot study God's Word as we do philosophy, astronomy, physiology or any other science ; but it is studied in a peculiar way, from the fact that it is " words of eternal life." Though it surpasses the highest aspirations of men it is studied in the most humble, childlike way.

We are to take the Bible, every one of us young men of the Christian Associations, and study it successfully in secret prayer, by the asking of the Holy Spirit to reveal unto us these things that are hidden.

President John Wanamaker, Philadelphia :

It seems to me the question is not how I shall study God's Word ? Right well we all know for ourselves, but how shall it be promoted in the Associations ?

We don't want any new machinery. We want to use what we have, our Sabbath Schools and our Churches. We can establish classes for young men. The very utmost we can do will be classes, perhaps on Sabbath afternoons for the strangers of the hotels or boarding-houses. But what we want to do is to get hold of every man and teach him in some Sunday School, and hand him over to some pastor to get him to work. I do not suggest any new plan to study the Bible, but think we should strengthen the old plans.

Charles Callender, Newark, N. J. :

I give my right hand of fellowship to this doctrine the last speaker has advanced, that the live men of our Associations are those who do the most in our churches in support of their pastors. As to uniform lessons, I believe before 1872 dawns upon us, every Sunday school paper and our Monthly, with every earnest worker and student of God's Word, may be engaged at the same time and the same hour in the study of the same passage of God's blessed Word.

L. Sheaf, Cincinnati :

In the rooms of the Cincinnati Association, Sunday nights, we have a class of men who have come from the gutters. Young men who have lived besotted lives for ten years or more, whom we have gathered from the sidewalks. They come into our rooms and are there led to the Lord Jesus Christ, and are established as teachers in Sabbath schools. You have got to get hold of them first, and prepare them, in order to lead them into the Sunday schools.

William F. Lee, N. Y. :

We have a Bible class on Sunday afternoons, and it seems to me a Young Men's Christian Association without a Bible class would be like a Sunday school without teachers. [Question by a delegate.—This meeting in the afternoon, does it conflict with the Church services?] Not at all ; the services are from 8 to 4½ o'clock, and it begins after them. It is led by a young man who was himself born and brought up in the Holy Land. He brings facts and illustrations from his own experience, and the best of all is, that he tries to find in the Old Testament, Jesus Christ. At the session two weeks ago, a man came in who did not believe in the Bible at all, and the truth of the Scriptures was put so clearly before him that he came to our meetings and found the Saviour. [A delegate.—I ask the brother if this class reaches young men largely?] Yes ; we reach young men who do not go into the Sunday schools. A large

poster is displayed outside the building. We have also preaching in the evening by our different pastors, and a social meeting afterwards. We have a tea meeting after the Bible class, a little social cup of tea for any one who don't like to go home before the evening service, and also a little season of prayer and service of song for an hour before the religious service. [Q. I want to know how much the tea cost?] Mr. McBurney answered: It costs about two or three dollars every week.

The Assembly then joined in singing:

"Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing."

Charles E. Morris, Philadelphia, moved that the time for discussing the question be extended fifteen minutes. Lost.

The Chairman, C. B. Fiske:

We ought to have these Bible classes of course, taught by the best talent that can be obtained. Every member of the Young Men's Christian Association ought to make it a sort of Normal Institute. Go out after these young men that have not good clothes and get them to come in, and when they study that Bible they will soon have as good clothes as you or I. Brother Hodder, the delegate from London, is here on this platform to-night. He arrived with us to-day. Had he been here yesterday, he would have heard many handsome things said about his Christian country, and the noble woman who rules over it, and earnest prayers offered up in their behalf.

The Chairman then read the letter from the Secretary of the London Association, introducing Matthew H. Hodder, as a delegate.

Mr. Hodder, in response, said he had been telling his people at home ever since he was here, two years ago, at Portland, of the love with which he was received, and of the friendship he felt for our people; he had spoken so much about it that they called him an American. In speaking of the London Association, he said it was the original Association, of which this was a branch, and he could remember when it was started in a little room, opposite his office, but had so rapidly grown that it was now spreading into Ireland, where similar institutions had already sprung up.

He found that Bible classes were of great importance, and should be established in all Associations. He had taught girls and men too, and believed those classes to be very beneficial and of much assistance to the Associations.

After singing—

"Blessed be the Tie that Binds,"

the Rev. Dr. Samson, President of Columbia College, offered prayer.

Ira Sankey, at the request of the Convention, then sang—

“Our Mission.”

After announcements by Geo. H. Hall, extending further hospitalities by the citizens of Washington to the delegates, and of the Devotional Committee, the Benediction was pronounced by the Rev. Dr. Sunderland, and the meeting adjourned to proceed in a body to wait upon the President of the United States.

VISIT TO THE PRESIDENT.—Mr. Wanamaker, having been received by the President, expressed to him the pleasure of the Convention in accepting his invitation.

Mr. Wanamaker first presented Mr. Maclean, of Halifax, the President of the last Convention, and then followed all the delegates and their friends, the President shaking hands with each. A large number of the members were accompanied by their wives, who were also presented to the President.

THE THIRD DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.—FRIDAY, MAY 26.

The President called the Convention to order at 9.30 A. M.
The hymn

“There is a Fountain Filled with Blood,”

was sung, when Vice-President Crosby read the 90th Psalm.
After singing

“Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing,”

prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Boyle, of Pittsburg. The singing of

“Who'll be the Next to Follow Jesus,”

followed.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The following communications were read :

BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION, }
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 26th, 1871. }

To the International Convention Young Men's Christian Associations, assembled,
“SENDETH GREETING : ”

The annual gathering of the Baptist Sunday Schools of this city will be held next Sunday Afternoon, May 28, at 3 P. M., at the Calvary Baptist Church, corner of 8th and H Streets, N. W., which the members of this Convention are cordially and earnestly invited to attend.

REV. S. H. MEYRICK, *Pres't.*

G. A. C. SMITH, }
B. F. BIGELOW, } *Committee.*

Referred to Committee on Devotional Meetings.

The following communication was received from the Executive Committee of the Y. M. C. A. of Netherland and referred to Committee on Report of Executive Committee.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE Y. M. C. A. }
OF THE NETHERLANDS, }
AMSTERDAM, April 29, 1871. }

To the Y. M. C. A. of the United States and British Provinces, at the Sixteenth Annual Convention in Washington:

DEAR BRETHREN: Though it is impossible to us to send delegates to your Convention, as your much-honored friend, Mr. C. Brainerd, kindly invited us to do, yet we can not pass the day of your sixteenth annual meeting without presenting you, in the name of the Dutch C. Y. M. Associations, our heartfelt salutations, without assuring you of our high esteem and brotherly sympathy, of our fervent prayers, above all, for your "growing up into Him in all things which is the head, even Christ."

We praise the Lord our Saviour for the blessings bestowed on you and your work. From your ASSOCIATION MONTHLY we learn with wonder and thanksgiving what God has wrought by the means of your Associations, and we can't help thinking that, in comparison to us, you are giants, in such a manner, that if we have a wish and prayer for our Associations here, it is that they may resemble yours.

No doubt it is our own fault—want of belief, want of energy, negligence in prayer; but in some respects we have to meet great obstacles. The word, "Not many mighty, not many noble," is very true for our country. In the higher classes, modern belief, or rather unbelief, is predominant; and though some faithful pastors are zealously promoting the interest of our Associations, there are rich professing Christians who have no sympathy at all for our work, which they consider as cultivating pride and self-love.

So we are proceeding very humble indeed, mostly without ample means, and in our towns you need not seek a (local) building belonging to the Y. M. C. Associations. Almost everywhere they are happy being able to rent a pair of rooms. Nevertheless, it would be sinful to lament, for we may also speak of God's undeserved grace and blessings. There are about 200 Y. M. C. Associations in our country, (the largest of them has only 120 members.) They all have Bible-classes, and most of them Sunday schools, crowded with children. Some of our men are teaching the blind reading the Bible; others have opened Associations for soldiers, or are busy in the work of city evangelization. We may say, our work, praised be the Lord from whom is all our strength, has not been in vain. Many young men may say, in the Y. M. C. Associations they have found Christ as their Saviour, and this, dear brethren, is a blessing of unspeakable worth.

But we will not by more writing bereave you of your costly time, and thus come to an end. A remembrance only. In 1778 a plan of a treaty between America (U. S.) and our republic was formed in secret by some of our statesmen. (It is not our intention to blame our fathers for it, though they were wrong, for at that time we were bound to England by treaty. They have suffered for it by the war of 1780.) The plan above mentioned has caused little good and much trouble, and therefore our Associations offer their American friends a new treaty, never to be broken, as it is founded in Him who has said,

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you ;" a treaty to work together, to pray for each other, before the night comes.

" And evermore beside us on the way
The unseen Christ shall move,
That we may lean upon his arm and say,
' Dost thou, dear Lord, approve ?'
O holy trust ! O endless sense of rest !
Like the beloved John,
To lay our head upon the Saviour's breast,
And thus to journey on."

Joining with you in the hope and prayer that your Convention may be blessed by the Holy Spirit to the glory of the Saviour and the establishment of his kingdom, we remain,

Fraternally and affectionately yours,

J. M. HESSEL,

Secretary Executive Committee.

SACRAMENTO, CAL., May 15, 1871.

My Friend Brainerd :

I will not be able to get away from here in time to be with you at Washington, but I will not forget to pray for you, and I trust you will have a profitable time. I think you would do great good if you should come to this Coast next year, they need something of the kind very much. Hoping God will be with you, I remain yours in Christ,

D. L. MOODY.

The Convention joined in singing

"Jesus the Water of Life will give."

Mr. Nott, St. Louis, asked the privilege of asking a question so as to answer a communication published in this morning's *Chronicle*.

H. Thane Miller : I suggest that this brother in the *Chronicle* just apply to this Association for membership.

F. H. Smith, Washington : Members of Roman Catholic Churches belong to the Washington Association as associate members. So far as I am aware, no members of that church have applied for active membership in the Association.

Mr. Nott : Living in St. Louis, this is a very important question—What to do with Catholic brethren if they come ? The Catholic element there is very powerful, and I would like to get the sense of this Convention upon the matter. What if we can get liberal Catholics like Dr. Döllinger to apply to our Christian Associations for membership ? Shall we take them ?

Mr. Browne, New Orleans :

Of the 200,000 inhabitants of our city, 100,000 are Catholics. I only rose to second the suggestion which my friend has just now made in reference to asking

the sense of the Convention. There have been propositions made to us to receive Catholics as associate members. None made for active membership. But there seems to be a disposition with some young men to press that point. I mean Catholic young men. There are young men, members of the Catholic faith, who seem willing to co-operate with us.

L. P. Rowland, Boston: The Portland resolution covers this ground, and will answer the question.

The President said according to the rules of business the discussion was out of order; that when the application for active membership by Catholic brethren was made, it would be decided.

S. S. Matthews, Chairman of the Committee on Credentials, presented the Report of the Committee, and asked leave to have it printed.

R. R. McBurney, N. Y., moved that their report be accepted, and that they be empowered to have the names of the delegates printed, ready for distribution at 2 o'clock this afternoon, and that the delegates be requested to make the needed corrections. Carried.

S. S. Fisher, Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, presented the following, which was adopted:

The Committee on Resolutions report that in their judgment it is inexpedient to adopt the following resolutions:

- I.—Relating to Women's Work, as the same is covered by a resolution of the Portland Convention.
- II.—Relating to the use of Tobacco, recommending in lieu thereof the declaration of the Portland Convention.
- III.—Relating to Paris—as in the judgment of the Committee, not within the jurisdiction of this Convention.
- IV.—Relating to the erection of a common Christian Temple—as the plan proposed does not seem to the Committee to be sufficiently matured to admit of action upon it.
- V.—The resolution relating to Sabbath Associations is recommended for adoption, with slight modification. The resolution as modified reads as follows:
"Resolved, That this Convention is deeply interested in all proper efforts made to promote the better observance of the Christian Sabbath, and it therefore hails with pleasure the formation of all Sabbath Associations, whose object it is by moral influences through personal effort, the pulpit and the press, to create a sound public sentiment upon this vitally important subject."
- VI.—Relating to Jails, &c., is recommended for adoption with modification. The resolution as recommended reads as follows:
"Resolved, That this Convention recognizes as a useful field of labor for the Master, the large number of young men confined in the jails, penitentiaries and reformatory institutions of the land"

J. S. Maclean, Chairman of the Committee on the Executive Committee's Report, presented the following partial Report:

Resolved. That the Executive Committee be empowered to designate and accredit delegates to represent the Associations of the United States and British Provinces at the World's Convention of Associations in London, England, to be held next Autumn. Adopted.

Resolved, 1. That the Associations of the United States and British Provinces be, and they hereby are recommended to observe the second Lord's Day in November next, as a day of prayer to Almighty God, for his blessing upon the work of these Societies throughout the world, and upon all efforts for the salvation of young men.

2. That the Executive Committee be and they hereby are instructed to request kindred Societies in other lands to unite with the Associations of America in the observance of this day. Adopted.

Resolved. That the employment of Robert Weidensall as the agent of the Executive Committee, be continued for the coming year, and that the Committee designate the field he is to occupy, and that the Committee be authorized (if the subscriptions taken at this Convention shall warrant), to employ another agent in such fields as they may select. Adopted.

Whereas, The Association MONTHLY, the organ of our Associations, as our exponent to the world of our objects and methods of operating, as a means of education of our members in their duties, and as a bond of union between our Associations, is a necessity for the successful prosecution of our work; therefore,

Resolved. That this Convention hereby reaffirms the resolutions of the last Convention in regard to the MONTHLY, and directs that its publication be continued, *provided,*

1. That the subscriptions made at this Convention, either directly for copies of the paper, or to a fund for its support and circulation until it become self-sustaining, be such as to insure the members of the Committee against personal liability for the expenses of publication.

2. That the committee be and it is hereby authorized, if in its judgment it deem best, to effect an incorporation for the purposes of such publication; but the property in said paper and the good will thereof, is to be and continue as it now is, to be held in trust for the benefit of the Associations, and under the legal control of the Executive Committee as the representative of the Conventions.

J. S. Maclean, Nova Scotia.

Just one word about this last resolution. I consider the sustaining of this MONTHLY a very important part of our Association work. Down in our lower Provinces at thirty different places, the MONTHLY is looked for with great interest. It is doing a great work. We take there in proportion to our population, more than any other part of this Continent, and we want that paper to give our young men all over the country information as to what we are doing, which they have no other means of obtaining. It is well enough for us who come here, to say we know all about it. But how many thousands all over our country are sitting at home and want to be informed, in order to know what to do, etc. I listened to the discussion about Bible classes, and was pained to learn how little work is being done in that direction by many of the Associations. We have them on week nights; so I like this MONTHLY to teach and lead up these Associations in reference to the Bible class movement.

My brothers, do heartily sustain this MONTHLY. We must have it. Therefore I beg you to take this matter into serious consideration this morning.

The resolution was adopted.

Chas. Callender offered a resolution in reference to the uniform study of the Bible. Referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

H. Thane Miller moved that the subject of subscriptions to the Executive Committee be taken up.

M. R. Barnard, Indianapolis:

Many of you who come from the western country know that there is great lack of information as to the duties and objects of the Young Men's Christian Associations. Many of our smaller cities and towns, large enough to maintain a proper Young Men's Christian Association, don't do it because they do not know what can be done by knowing how to organize and work it. This MONTHLY is to give this information. As to the work of the Missionary, some person is needed who can visit these localities and become familiar with the Christian people and give them the information they desire. In most of our cities and localities business men are so engaged they have not the time to go about and give the necessary information. It is incumbent upon us it seems to me, and the proper duty of this Convention, to provide a liberal sum for some competent person to go about and do this work. This our worthy Brother Weidensall has been doing. He has visited our own State, Indiana, and told them how the Association could be made useful to God and could unite Christian people. This work we must have done; this is the work of a Missionary and he ought to be liberally sustained.

Moreau S. Crosby, Grand Rapids, Mich.:

We have need in the West of just such men as Brother Weidensall. It is hardly necessary for me to do more than to look at his report. It is the best commentary upon his work. We think then from what he has done in Michigan we must have some such man. Moreover, he has done work in the colleges of the State in the organization of Young Men's Christian Associations, which must certainly be felt in all of the towns where these colleges are located, and when these young men shall go out into the country. With regard to the MONTHLY, it seems to me we ought to recognize here in Washington the power of the Press. So we ought to have a paper of our own, and this is our paper. I believe the young men of the country need to be educated with reference to Young Men's Christian Association and other work. We need this information sent over the country month by month through this periodical, and it will be a better paper *when better sustained*. I think if our brethren throughout the country would give the same time and subscription to this paper that they do to the secular papers, our circulation would be increased by and by so as to become sustaining, and more I trust than that.

J. I. Platt, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.:

I want to say just one word about this paper as a newspaper man, brought up in the business. We started this paper I think originally at the Albany Convention as a Quarterly. It grew into the Monthly, and we started that two years ago without a single dollar of capital and put it into the hands of the Executive Committee. There seems to be an impression in this Convention that that MONTHLY has not succeeded. I want as a newspaper man—one

who thinks he knows the business, for he has been successful in it—to say that that MONTHLY has not in any sense whatever failed to succeed. No newspaper ever pays expenses the first year. The Executive Committee want some capital. Not money given away, but money put into business, just as the American Bible Society owns its presses and buildings, etc. It is capital invested. I think we ought to put \$5,000 into this MONTHLY as capital. Let this corporation be formed, then this will be the property of the Association. I hope the Executive Committee will keep it prominently an Association paper, and occupy the field no other newspaper does.

William Frew, Pittsburg :

How many here will give us the consideration of their little finger to carry the work on? We have 150,000 members of the Young Men's Christian Associations represented here. How many subscribe for the paper to-day? 3,000! It is a disgrace to us. Trying to build up organizations for the promotion of a Christian civilization and yet but 3,000 give a dollar a year to carry on its work. We want the publication of that paper to go directly home to every young man, and stimulate him, energize him, and instruct him, and next year when you come together in your International Convention, you will perhaps see it double its present numbers, 800 Associations. If each one of these Associations take ten numbers, we would have 8,000 subscriptions. Some of the Associations take 200 copies, but the great bulk of them don't take a single copy. There is no use of talking about this matter. We have the reputation of being a Convention of self-glorifiers, a sort of a mutual admiration society, talking a great deal and not doing very much. Let us do better work and talk less.

T. K. Cree, Pittsburg :

We must have just such a publication as this. This MONTHLY that we give our money for is necessary to bring information before the people in a proper way. I have an inward conviction to-day that next year the subscription list will come back 20,000, and that there will be a balance in the treasury of \$5,000 on our capital of \$8,000. This Executive Committee want us to shield them from personal loss on account of the paper. We have given nobly to it. Yet at the Indianapolis Convention there were many hundreds of Associations represented and subscriptions very little more than received from one little State Convention in Pennsylvania. I thought then it was a shame that this important matter had to go over for want of time. I think it is important that money should be got to carry on the work of this Executive Committee. I know they have not employed a Secretary, while we in Pennsylvania have a paid Secretary through the whole year. I think this due to the Committee as an appreciation of their earnest labor of love during the past year. Another matter, \$2,800 due this Executive Committee from Associations! I don't know where it is due from. I hope there is none of it due from my State, and I hope the Associations here will ask themselves the question whether they owe any of this, and come forth and pay it if they do. The Committee want the money or they cannot carry on this MONTHLY.

A. H. Nelson, New Orleans :

I think we have no need of argument to persuade us to maintain the ASSOCIATION MONTHLY. Simply what we have heard from the other side of the water to-day proves that. Whence comes this greeting from the Netherlands? How did they learn of this Young Men's Christian Association in this country? Their hearts, as Christian brothers, have gone out to us in the message sent to-

day. We hope the maintenance of this publication is to secure centralization of interest. There are enough influences going towards localization, but we want this centralization. Its circulation is small. We stand here to-day one of the youngest Associations, an infant in this great band. Yet we feel the importance of this paper, and we pledge a subscription list of fifty out of two hundred members, and shall more than double and treble it. I believe two-thirds of our membership will subscribe to our ASSOCIATION MONTHLY. I think there is a misapprehension in the minds of some of the brethren in regard to its object. It is not designed to be a family paper, but to be a reservoir in which shall be the wisdom and knowledge of the Young Men's Christian Associations of this country.

J. G. Bergen, Baltimore :

I wish to say a word. In Baltimore we are in favor of an international organ. We think the Associations cannot do without it. The only question we feel to be decided at this hour is this; How shall such ASSOCIATION MONTHLY be sustained? We have seen from the report of the Executive Committee that the MONTHLY for two years has not been self-sustaining, and it comes up to the Convention this year and wants \$2,000, and it has been intimated that \$5,000 will be necessary; but what I wish to do is simply to state to this Convention a proposition by which the Executive Committee I believe may go home with the \$5,000 needed. Mr. Bergen made a business proposition in connection with the Baltimore Association paper, which was not accepted by the Convention.

A. J. Chase, Portland, Me. :

We have an ASSOCIATION MONTHLY for the United States and British Provinces. This organ was established by the unanimous vote of one of the largest Conventions ever convened in the land. This organ, of which we are proud, takes a place which no other paper in the country holds. There are men undoubtedly connected with this Association whose great wisdom and great ability may entirely surpass that which is encompassed in the columns of this MONTHLY. But we have all over this land young men earnestly desiring to engage in Christian work, and yet do not know how to do it. If there is one thing that I think important, it is this—the permanency of these Associations—this should be impressed upon the heart of every man connected with them. Where we take Christ as our leader and take of our means and time to advance His cause, what can we do better when we go to our homes than to extend the circulation of our paper in order to extend the work of Christ through this organization? There is no work we can do better. I wish every brother who has spoken in this Convention would address his Association when he gets home, with the same fervor, that the cause may be sustained. We want this capital of \$5,000. We want to continue the mutual interest and bond of influence which already exists to disseminate knowledge around us for the extension of these organizations throughout the land.

R. R. McBurney :

In relation to the proposition made by the Baltimore brethren, there are some points in it worthy of consideration. I know every one of these brethren, and I know they are not selfish in their love of the Association cause. I know they do not consider that Baltimore is the only Association in the country, and there are no brethren on this floor with a more real Catholic spirit than they. What we want is Association literature and an Association paper that will

educate the members of the Young Men's Christian Association how to do the work and understand the character of the work and our methods of operation. We find in Associations all over our country that the members have a willingness to work for young men, but know not how to begin. Now, sir, so soon as the ASSOCIATION MONTHLY is placed in the hands of the members of these Young Men's Christian Associations, they will be educated and trained to become a power for usefulness. We do not ask you to give a donation of \$5,000. We ask you to invest in this cause to which you are pledged, to which we are pledged to carry out for our people the responsibility which you have placed on us as members of the Executive Committee, to work beneficently and intelligently. We desire to fulfil all the responsibility placed upon us to the full extent of our power. Brethren, we have come before you in former conventions, you have meant kindly toward us; adopted admirable resolutions; said you would seek to get in your towns so many subscribers, and very little has come out of it. Now we do not propose to return to New-York and assume the responsibility to carry on this work, which is your work, unless we get the money to do it. We know you will give it to us.

C. B. Fiske:

We have reached level ground. These speeches full of enthusiasm and clapping of hands are grand. Now is the time to clap them into your pockets, brethren. It will take a good deal of liberal giving if we carry through this proposition aright. Now it is one thing to talk and another thing to do. I move, Mr. President, that the debate close and the roll of Associations be called to take the subscriptions. Carried.

George W. Mears, Philadelphia:

Before we begin, Mr. President, how much is wanted? Let us have a sort of statement from the Executive Committee what it is wanted for.

E. A. Hutchins, Brooklyn, N. Y.:

We will take subscriptions in three forms. We will ask the Associations in the first place to say how much money they will subscribe for the general expenses, including salary of the agent, traveling expenses, and the salary of any other agent whom we may have money to employ, the expenses of the Executive Committee, posters, circulars, etc., and then subscriptions for the MONTHLY and for copies of the reported proceedings of the Convention. 1. How much money for the general expenses enumerated. 2. How many copies of the ASSOCIATION MONTHLY? 3. How many Convention Reports? We need \$8,000 to publish the MONTHLY and carry on the work directed by the Convention, employing one agent in the North. Appeals are made to us for one in the South during the winter, and one in the Eastern States and Provinces, but we cannot comply with these requests, unless the subscriptions come in to cover the expenses of these agents.

The roll of the Associations was then called, and subscriptions taken, during which the Chairman of the Business Committee reported the following resolution:

Resolved. That the Right Worthy Grand Lodge of Good Templars of the United States and British Provinces, now in this city, be invited to seats on the floor of the House, and their officers be requested to take seats on the platform. Also that the topic in reference to money for Associations be dropped for to-day. Adopted.

The Convention joined in singing

"Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow."

M. S. Barnard: The general desire is to change the Report just made by the Business Committee. The Committee recommend that the topic in reference to raising money for Associations be taken up first this afternoon, and the last topic, "Obstacles in the Way of Organizing and Maintaining Associations," be dropped. Adopted.

After the Benediction by the Rev. George Douglass, of Montreal, the Convention took a recess.

FRIDAY—1:30, P. M.

Vice-President Callender in the Chair. The exercises were opened by singing

"The Morning Light is Breaking."

Rev. J. R. Daniels, of Newark, N. J., read the 1st Chapter of the Epistle of St. James ; after singing

"Come Thou Fount of every Blessing,"

prayer was offered by the Rev. Yates Hickey, of Scranton, Pa.

The Business Committee presented the following Report which was adopted :

EVENING SESSION—FRIDAY, MAY 26TH.

Service of song, praise, and Christian Conference, to be led by H. Thane Miller. Service commencing at 7:30, at Congregational Church.

SATURDAY, MAY 27TH.

9:30 to 10:15.—Miscellaneous business.

10:15 to 11:15.—Topic, Young Men in Business—What are Their Temptations, and How shall they be Resisted? Discussion opened by Hon. S. S. Fisher, Cincinnati.

11:15 to 11:45.—Time and place for our next Convention.

11:45 to 12:30.—Obstacles in the way of Organizing and Maintaining Young Men's Christian Associations. Discussion opened by T. K. Cree, Pittsburg.

12:30 to 1.—Recess.

1 to 2:30.—Topic, Our Religious Work, how shall it be made more effective? Discussion opened by M. S. Crosby, Michigan. To be followed by Reports of Association work throughout the country.

2:30 to 3.—Consideration of the Report of Committee on Resolutions.

3 to 3:15.—Miscellaneous business.

N. P. Kemp, Boston, presented a resolution in reference to future Conventions. Referred to Committee on Resolutions.

THE FIFTH TOPIC—"Money for the support of our Associations—How shall it be raised?" was then taken up, and opened by the President, John Wanamaker.

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Convention :

In glancing over the last Annual Report of one of our foremost Associations, I was struck with the significant sentence—"The Association has *always* labored under the *embarrassment* of having no regular source of revenue at all adequate to its necessities for current expenses." Equal candor would, I question not, compel nine-tenths of all our Associations to make the same pitiable admission. Indeed, it is to be doubted if there is one single organization represented in this Convention to day, which has not known by painful experience. what it is to be hampered and embarrassed in its work by the want of a few thousand, or it may be of but a few *hundred* dollars annually!

And worse than this—I question not but that many a good work of this kind, commenced with earnest hearts and willing hands, has been given over entirely through no other lack than that of funds—money for needful expenses. Over the grave of many a defunct Association might be truthfully written "starved to death."

It is humiliating to make the confession, yet the confession had better be made, and here in Convention assembled we should face the stern facts and devise the remedy. Look at our Associations! They are poverty stricken! If their work demands tens of thousands a year (as does the work, if well done, of every Association planted amid the temptations of a large city), they have but thousands with which to do it; if it demands thousands they have but hundreds! We live, the most of us—not in houses of our own, suitable for and adapted to our great and varied work, but in "rented rooms," contracted and inadequate! There are noble exceptions. Witness this grand hall and this noble building in which we assemble to-day! But still the fact stands, that despite the demands of our work—despite the fact that much of that work cannot be done in "rooms." Of all our 776 Associations, whose delegates I address, but 21 are safely housed under roofs they can call their own. And how we live! Whether in houses or rooms! from hand to mouth—always in the drag! We devise good and fail to accomplish it for want of money. Noble opportunities are presented; we cannot embrace them. We have no money. Time and force that ought to be expended (perhaps all the monthly meeting of the Board of Managers) in other directions, is all spent in scraping together a little money.

Young men can be attracted to pleasant apartments on the first or second floor on a leading avenue or street, but no power on earth will win them to dingy rooms, three stories up, and back from the main thoroughfare where are brightness and life. But we must be content with the latter, for the former costs a hundred dollars (?) a year more!

Young men will accept an invitation to a library well furnished with current literature, live books of the day, and living newspapers and magazines; but I defy you to get them into your reading-rooms a second time if you put before them only religious biographies, "Missionary Heralds" and the "Temperance Advocate." But these latter must make up the bulk of our library, for the Tract Society will furnish us with them gratis, while the former cost something and we have no money.

Young men may be tempted to turn back from the billiard saloon and

bowling alley, where the bar glistens with all its bewildering temptation to fatal indulgence, if you can promise them entertainment that they can enjoy, and amusements that will interest them; but not one of all the multitude will go with you while the only attraction you can offer is the "prayer meeting," which they have not yet learned to relish, or "Christian conversation," in which they can take no part. Yet these latter are all we can offer, for they alone can be had without money and without price. Young men, worthy in every way, but for the time unfortunate, are by hundreds crying to us, "Get me employment," "Give me something to do," and we know that there is no other barrier that can be thrown between them and destruction; that "something to do" is the first step in their salvation. But our Employment Committees are powerless without money. It costs for clerk, it costs for offices, it costs to advertise, it costs to issue circulars; it all costs and we have no money. So that important part of our work must be left undone, or at best be but half done by a committee who give to it the remnants of their time.

And so it goes, through the whole range of our departments, and the story of one committee is the history of them all.

What is the cause? Not that the demands are not imperative. The voices that cry unto us are those of young men, perhaps our own companions, but a few years since, standing to day upon the very brink of destruction! We must save them, or they will not be saved. The voices of mothers, broken-hearted and almost despairing, come to us from every town and hamlet—"For God's sake, seek out my boy and save him." Thousands of lads, just breaking into manhood, already tempted and endangered, with one foot on the threshold of the Court of Sin and Death, must be rescued, and we, the Y. M. C. Associations must rescue them. I tell you, brethren, the sun does not shine upon a work more imperative than this which we have undertaken!

Nor is it that there are not enough Christian young men willing and competent to undertake this great work—properly organized on a liberal and broad platform and on principles that shall command the sympathy of Christian people, any Association can gather beneath its banner an army of consecrated Christian men ready for work. And whenever failure has been experienced in this respect, the defect has not been in the want of numbers, but in the want of sufficient organization and properly marshalling of those numbers.

Nor yet is it that there is not among Christian people sufficient money for all our wants, and money, moreover, that is available if properly sought. I cannot believe—I will not believe that Christian communities will not sympathize with our work and contribute liberally for its support, when once they are made to understand it and are properly approached with its claims. What hath hindered us? The want of a little money—that is all. What we need to-day is, in my humble estimation, to devise and adopt some simple, practical, and business-like scheme of raising money for all current expenses, of gaining for our Associations an income large and reliable.

That the question is one of vast importance, you all know; not so much from what I have just said, as from your own experience in your several fields of labor. You know that the money must be raised, and raised promptly, or the work stops, and that it must be raised, not in meager sums, but in large amounts, or the work is greatly impeded.

You know, too, that this, like all other important questions, is difficult of solution. After trying so many plans as you have, and with so important a

result, some of you may be ready to join with a discouraged brother who said to me but a day ago, "I do not believe that money can be raised to sustain our Association—we have tried everything."

But be this far from us; let us rather grapple boldly and bravely with the question, determined that this money obstacle, like every other hindrance, shall yield to the intensity of our purpose and the persistence of our endeavor. Coming as we do from the East and the South and the West and the North, differing, perhaps, in many respects, but all one in this, that we earnestly desire to glorify our Maker in helping upward our fellow young men. One object of our being here is that with the aggregate of our wisdom and experience we may give this question the best solution of which it is capable. My office is to open the discussion, throwing out the few suggestions that occur to me. Let our first inquiry then, be this:

1st. Why have we failed in raising money for the support of our Associations? To which I shall venture to make the following reply:

(a.) From want of a more perfect, more business-like organization of the financial part of the work.

(b.) From want of securing the sympathy of the Christian community. And

(c.) From want of an efficient method of collection. And then we will inquire—

2d. How the mistakes of the past may be corrected?

(a.) How organize the Department of Finance?

(b.) How bring all classes of people into full sympathy and co-operation with us?

(c.) What plan shall we adopt in our future appeals for money?

To each of these points in turn, let us give a brief consideration.

(A.) I find the first cause of failure in this part of our work in the past that we have lacked system, and have never conducted our work on strictly business principles. Why, gentlemen, those of you who are familiar with the loose, slipshod way in which the finances of our Associations have been conducted, will bear me out in saying that such a way of doing business would disgrace a 20th class shopkeeper, and would, if we should attempt to conduct our private business so, put the richest man among us in bankruptcy inside of a six month! And what I say here of the finances of our Young Men's Christian Associations is true also of other Christian organizations, aye, of the Church itself. How many of our Churches are out of debt and able to pay their way year by year, without endless extra subscriptions, deficits to be made up, and all that? A gentleman in a position to know all about it, assured me the other day, that of some fifty churches of a certain denomination in the city in which he resides, he knew of but four that were able from their regular yearly revenues of pew rents, collections, etc., to pay their current expenses. No salaried clerk on the most meager stipend, has a more wearisome struggle to make both ends meet, and to come out square at the end of the year, than most of our churches have.

Now what I say is this: business is business, just as much in the room of our Finance Committee as in the counting-house of our most extensive mercantile establishments, and demands just as much to be conducted on sound methodical business principles.

This is the Lord's work, even this matter of finances, and it ought to be done as faithfully and as well as is the private business of the best merchant among us. What Association is there on our roll that has not in it a score of successful business men, financiers who can run a bank, an insurance company, a

railroad or any other moneyed institution? And cannot these same gentlemen manage the finances—comparatively so petty—of an Association? Then let us at once overhaul this whole matter. Let us put our best business men on our Committee of Ways and Means. Let us re-organize on a firm, thoroughly business basis, and believe me we shall have taken the first step in the much needed reform.

(B.) The next point on which we have failed—so it seems to me—is in securing the sympathy (and sympathy means co-operation,) of our Christian people generally.

They do not give to support our work because they do not understand and appreciate that work, and the fault is largely our own. As I have said already, I do not and will not believe that the moneyed men of our churches would fail us at this vital point, if once they were made to understand what we propose and what we are doing. I know too much of the heart of these men and have had too much experience of their willingness to help every good work to believe any such slander of them. And that we have failed of their co-operation is, I believe, due largely to the fact that somehow we have failed to awaken their interest.

It is often complained that even our ministers stand aloof from us. Do you tell me that it is because they do not desire the salvation of the young men for whom we labor? I must forget all that I have yet learned about them to believe that. Do you tell me that they are afraid that we shall encroach upon, if not supersede their own high prerogatives? I know too much of their faith in the stability of a divinely ordained church which can never be superseded, to believe that.

Do you tell me that it is because they detect some antagonism between our Associations and the church? Then it is because we have failed to make our position clearly understood. For who does not know that the active members of our Associations are at the same time the most active and reliable members of our churches, second to none in love for their individual churches, and who would see every other Association perish forever, rather than have the efficiency and divinely appointed work of their churches impeded or impaired?

Let our ministers understand that we only seek to be their allies; that they are not ruled out of our counsels, that we court their guidance and support; that we will in our Associations as we do in our churches, sit at their feet and listen to every suggestion, and we shall I am sure, enlist as we have never done the good offices of all our pastors, and secure their co-operation even to this matter of finances.

How have we failed to secure the sympathy of the Christian community at large, do you ask? Perhaps in some cases we have failed to deserve it. I do not mean to say that we have done anything unworthy, but only that we have not done anything at all.

Some of our Associations have a name to live, being virtually dead. While extensive means are necessary to large and extended work, there still is work, and important work, that can be done without a dollar, and unless we first do that we establish no claim to increased revenues. Only he that is faithful in that which is least, is to be made master over much. I once inquired of a prominent gentleman in no inconsiderable town, about the Young Men's Christian Association which I knew had been established there some years before. His reply was: "I don't know that we have any such organization among our young men."

Could that Association complain that it was ill-supported? that its income was inadequate? Let such an Association arouse and do something for the Master; let it do such a work, that no citizen who reads the papers and has an interest in church matters generally, can be, to say the least, ignorant of its existence.

Another reason for our failing to secure the sympathy of those who could contribute to our support, is that we have not given sufficient and wise publicity to our work. This is a delicate point. For in no way could we more quickly offend and estrange sensible men than by being forever blowing our own trumpets, telling the wonderful things we have done or mean to do, boastfully vaunting ourselves through our work. I mean nothing of that kind. But there are legitimate and sensible ways of making the public familiar with our work. I meet men every day who are perfectly indifferent to it, if they do not sneer at our Associations. Why? Because they are entirely ignorant of its design and work. I always take pains to post such men as best I can, but they are a multitude and cannot be reached individually. How can we inform them?

First of all we have our own ASSOCIATION MONTHLY—a beautiful sheet—full of the best thoughts on our work—overflowing with the experience of the best workers all over our land—any one copy worth to an earnest leader in our work the cost of a year's subscription, and yet with all this but a few copies circulated.

Instead of the 6,000 copies now subscribed for, there should be at least 60,000 copies printed and circulated every month. Members of the Associations should not only subscribe themselves, but they should, even at the cost of a little effort, induce others to take and read it, especially any who are sceptical about the utility of Young Men's Christian Associations. This is one way in which we may give to men that information which they must have before we can hope to have them contribute of their means. Then there are the daily papers, we should use them; they are open to every other good work, why should they be closed to us? Nor are they. During the past year I have read in some of the New-York papers, and also in our own Philadelphia dailies, editorial notices of our work which could not but do us a world of good, by the way of bringing our work to the favorable notice of the community. The endorsement of such papers as the *Tribune*, the *Ledger* and the *Chronicle* is worth much.

Let carefully prepared articles be sent now and then to our most widely circulated newspapers, and let the necessary means be used to secure their publication and thus give publicity to our work.

Have we not been too willing to allow papers run wholly in the interest of the world—in antagonism to Christ and His work—to represent us, or rather to misrepresent us as best served their purpose, and have not thought it worth our while to turn aside to notice their misrepresentations and correct the false impressions made?

Public Monthly Meetings made interesting enough to secure large audiences, is another means to the same end. Have an efficient Committee on Monthly Meetings, hold the meetings in the churches, secure for them men of popular talents whom the people are glad to hear, and no difficulty will be experienced in gathering a large audience.

Of course, much of the work of any Association cannot be made public—its story can never be told. But we can make known that fact, and illustrate it, and all who hear will rejoice and help in such a work.

(c.) Still another cause of our past failures in the matter of finance, is to be

found in the methods and plans upon which we have relied. A glance at some of them will show how defective they have been.

For obvious reasons, it is not to be expected that the large expense of a flourishing Association will be borne by the young men who constitute its active membership. They will do what they can in this as in every other direction; but still if they do the work they may well claim to have done their part. It is wise that the initiation fees and yearly dues be fixed at a low figure, that not any, even the poorest, may be excluded, or feel that connection with the Association will subject them to expense that they can ill afford. Such a general understanding will not excuse such members as are blessed with an abundance of this world's goods from contributing most liberally.

Let the fees and dues, whatever they be, be regularly and faithfully collected, and this will form the basis, however insufficient of itself, of the yearly revenue. How shall this be supplemented? We are to look now at some of the plans which have been tried.

Fairs have been tried, and at times they have done good service, for though we may be disposed to quarrel with human nature for it, it is a fact that many people who will not contribute to a good cause for the cause's own sake, may be made to aid it by the use of a little of the wisdom of the serpent combined with the harmlessness of the dove, and however distasteful this may be as a means of raising money, I for one have no doubt of its legitimacy, and would never hesitate to employ it or any similar means when I saw it would serve our purpose well.

But as a dependence for a regular yearly income nothing could be more unreliable, for the novelty of such a thing is soon worn out, and then it becomes wholly unsatisfactory alike to projectors and patrons.

Lectures have been tried, and they too in their place have and do serve a good purpose. Some of our Associations still depend largely upon an annual course of lectures as their chief means of support, and our own Association in Philadelphia something—sometimes no inconsiderable sum is derived every winter from two lecturers, Mr. Fletcher and Mr. Gough—but the amount that can be derived from this source, even in our large cities, is entirely inadequate and far too precarious to be relied upon. There are too many contingencies, the state of the weather, the availableness of the lecturers that “draw,” and occasions of public interest that strangely turn up the same night of and interfere with the lecture. These like fairs and concerts, and entertainments of all kinds, are well in their way, but none of them can be counted on.

Collections have been tried in churches, and on occasions of public interest such as anniversaries, general appeals have been made, but almost always with but indifferent response.

Such appeals are not sufficiently individual and do not produce that feeling of personal interest and responsibility, which alone prompts to large contributions, and I believe it were better that no appeals of that kind be made; for the person from whom by some different method of attack we might get many dollars, drops into the box a few cents, and then when afterwards approached, he puts you off, “I have contributed.”

Each church owes us a collection every year, and I have no doubt but that such collection could be had. It is a question of expediency, however, to ask for or take it, and the experience of the Associations that have relied upon this plan, goes to prove that such collections are inexpedient, for until the day comes when the christian communities generally shall rank our work with the work of Home and Foreign Missions and the like, and acknowledge that it is

as good a work to save the young men who are being wrecked in our very streets—our own brothers and sons and neighbors—as to save the far off heathen, there is little hope that such collections will amount to more than the most meager sum.

Such a day is coming. A day when Christian men will believe that their first duty is to lend a helping hand to the tempted and sinning ones; ay, to the very outcasts, whom we pass by on our streets every day and night; and when that day comes, I say, we can count on Church collections as the means of our support, as they are now the support of other "missions" and "causes," but not till then. All these means—fairs, concerts, entertainments, lectures and collections—have been tried and found wanting. Is there no other way in which to support our Associations? Yes, there is a plan, recently adopted by a few of our Associations, in which I have faith. It is the subscription plan, and properly executed it will, I am confident, solve for us this vexed question of support. But before discussing it, let me emphasize those two words, "properly executed." For, believe me, brethren, the difficulty with half our plans is not in the plans themselves so much as in our own indifferent execution of them.

We come together and bewail our want of money, and we resolve on some desperate effort, and draft resolutions and appoint committees, and go forth as if to turn the world upside down on behalf of our Associations. We are to meet again and report in a week. The time for the meeting comes, and once again we are together. The chairman calls upon each in turn to report what he has done. The rest of the story you know. Each one hands in his excuse for having done nothing, and all agree in voting the plan a very poor one, and heap the blame of our own slothfulness upon its innocent head.

Now, Mr. Chairman, if we young men, expect that people are going to come with hands full of money and empty them into our treasury, then this miserable shirking is to a degree excusable; but, sir, if we know, as we do, that here as everywhere we must have some effort on our part to represent every dollar we get, then let us have done forever with this spirit of trifling, and let us take hold with both hands; and then even a poor plan may be rendered efficient through our earnest and energetic application of it.

The subscription plan is simply this: By personal and individual application at the first of each year, to secure from a few (comparatively) of our wealthier or more liberal citizens subscriptions of sufficient amount to cover the entire expenses of the Association for the current year.

The supposition is that there are in every community a sufficient number of large hearted men abundantly able and ready to bear the whole expense of this work if they are sought out, made acquainted with the work, and judiciously appealed to for its support.

The plan is simple, easy of application and reliable. Let us see how it may be applied. There are three methods. The first commits the work to the Board of Managers. These gentlemen are usually men of more or less business acquaintance and influence, and can bring their own influence to aid the claims of the Association, and so each in his own circle obtains a list of subscribers, few in number and easily reached. These subscriptions are generally renewed each year. Some of the subscribers, I learn from the Treasurer of the New-York Association, where this plan is in use, sending in their contributions without renewed application.

Another method is to appoint a Collector in each church represented in the

Association. This plan is in use in Montreal and here in Washington, and with them both I believe the experiment is a success.

Still another method of application, and in our humble opinion the best, is to have some one competent and salaried person, to whom is committed this whole matter of collections; some one who can make it, to some extent at least, his business, and who alone shall be held responsible. Of course Directors and all others will lend him what assistance they can, but still with him Secretary, Treasurer or Solicitor, will rest the work. To the successful working of this plan, the one thing essential is a competent person—the right man for the place. He must be such a man as would make a good Solicitor for an Insurance Company—persistent, industrious, of good address, and himself thoroughly interested in the work. Such a man can go out among our business men, judiciously present the cause and its claims, and in this way receive needed funds. He will pay his own salary five times over out of the increased income. This is the plan we are working under in Philadelphia, and further reference to it may occur in the discussion.

To sum up all that has been said:

- 1st. Reorganize the Finances on a thoroughly business basis.
- 2d. Call on your members and subscribers promptly to pay all dues, fees and subscriptions.
- 3d. Use all extra means, such as lectures, entertainments, when clearly expedient, but never make them a dependence.
- 4th. Rely mainly on the subscription plan, in whichever of its modifications is best adapted to the individual Association.

And, in conclusion, these two injunctions:

- 1st. Execute faithfully whatever plan you adopt.
- 2d. Do not spend the money until you have raised it.

Chas. Palmer, Prince Edwards Island:

We undertook to raise a new building, costing \$11,000. Had nothing to commence on, and we have done it. I don't believe it lies with the clergyman of a church to raise this money. He has plenty to do. Let the Young Men's Christian Association support themselves, I say. There are men and women connected with us willing and able to do it; kind men, who stand high in the community; give them the work to do to raise these subscriptions. We divided a whole district into wards. We succeeded admirably. It was but a short time before we had subscriptions pouring in more than we wanted. What you want first is the hearts and sympathies of the people, and their attention directed to the point. Every man spoke to his acquaintances and friends.

J. H. Cheever, Cincinnati:

The usefulness and success of an Association depends so much, under the blessing of God, upon the condition of the finances, that the topic under discussion becomes one of vital importance to all interested in the work. Promptness in meeting any legitimate demands upon our Associations recommends itself to every thinking man. Nothing so retards the usefulness of a Christian Church or any other organization, as letting bills be presented for payment from time to time, when by a little foresight and care upon the part of the proper officers, its reputation could be preserved. The history of our Association, with its aims and objects, when thoroughly understood, should meet the respect and sympathy of a large majority of our best citizens, of whatever name or denomination, and

money to sustain them will be forthcoming in proportion. A lifeless organization does not command respect. Suppose each Association, whether it be small or large, goes home and appoints a finance committee, consisting of not more than five or less—the smaller the better—and try to raise the necessary funds for the work. See that the Treasurer is at all times prepared for bills when presented, and then begin the business of systematic solicitation, two by two, the chairman always being the leader. As to the qualifications of those selected for this work, they ought to have the first ability. I protest against broken down merchants, or ministers, or strangers just coming to town and willing to solicit, in order to make acquaintances among the best citizens of the place. Nor rash men, always spoiling for a controversy. Above all, as we value success, don't select the meanest and stupidest man of the town. But make your selection from the very best and most successful business men of the place, of extended views, who have earned success by virtue of these qualifications. Clergymen are put to this work, supposing them to have more time. Well, this may be convenient for the churches, but it does not follow they are the best qualified to solicit money for other societies. On the other hand, it is the very best reason for their being excused from this duty. Because men will make excuses to them coming so often, or give sparingly. Merchants are the best, and we have enough quite special work to do for the ministers.

R. R. McBurney suggested as the majority of Associations were in small places that their experiences might be given. The Associations in the large cities were very well able to take care of the finances.

R. S. Holmes, Auburn, N. Y. :

The Association I represent has had practical experience in wanting money and getting money. I don't believe that we should go for our money outside of our Christian Associations. I am a business man, and don't think when I am in a financial difficulty that I must go to my neighbors in the next store to help me out. Don't believe we ought to go to the churches to help us. No Christian Association of young men but can have all the money it needs, and can get it from every individual member of the Association if it pursues the right plan.

Our plan is to get every member to give something, if not more than 5 cents per week, into the Association. We had tried for ten years to get along and failed. Two years ago we adopted this plan. I suggested it and went to the President and asked him how much will you give per month? I will give \$50 per year, in twelve equal payments. So on to the Vice-President, to the two Secretaries and Treasurer. Then beginning with the Board of Managers went through and through the register of members, every man. The result was, we got three times as much money as we have spent in any year before. We get our money promptly once a month, and whereas year after year at the International Convention we had not been able to pay more than \$10 to the expenses of the Executive Committee, to-day we are able by authority of the Board of Managers to give \$80. There is hardly a man in any Association who cannot give a dollar a month. In a small town last year we raised \$800 in seven days. This year I raised \$600 in six days, and I am going home to raise \$700 more. Employ a paid Secretary if you can, a good competent man, and if you raise it in this way you can afford to employ a man to go around and collect it into the Treasury.

A. H. Nelson, New Orleans :

My experience completely endorses what our President has said. In the inauguration of our society we raised the question of finances. We selected prominent Christian young men on that Committee, whose business names were sufficient endorsement. In the second place we went to work at our last meeting and resolved that the Board take immediate steps to secure funds for the carrying on the work of the Association. They prepared a subscription paper. I must say that the Christian men there are interested and liberal, and ready to clap their hands into their pockets.

Robert H. Moore, Elizabeth, N. J. :

When we organized we had a good start. Nice library, handsome rooms to meet in, etc. Ran along this way for about a year. We were not doing anything. It was simply a religious club, where the members went in kid gloves, had a good time and went home again. At last found ourselves \$600 in debt, and by the kindness of one of the members of the Board that was paid. We resolved ourselves, the whole membership, then into a Committee on Finances to raise money. We could raise \$700 by active and associate membership, but needed a \$1,000 more from year to year. We took the Directory, wrote off the names of every resident of our city, divided these residents among the members of the Board and went to work. Very soon we raised more than we wanted, and in this way we will raise money every year, and expect to have a new building in a few years worth \$50,000.

Vice-President Clinton Lloyd, Washington :

We have had great difficulty here in raising funds for the regular expenditures of the Association. I don't think it is generally wise to pay a salary out of the subscriptions. Men go before the public in this way always at a disadvantage. My friends you will raise money just as you carry out the other work of the Association, by persistent effort, and that alone will secure it, and by every member of the Association realizing there is a responsibility upon him in this matter. We have asked the people to subscribe a certain amount of money, monthly or quarterly, to be paid until the subscriber gives notice to the contrary. It is like the subscription to a newspaper.

After singing the hymn,

“ Sound the battle cry,”

the regular order of business was suspended, to complete the subscriptions. After subscriptions, amounting to nearly \$7,500 in all, had been received,

L. L. Crounse, Chairman of the Committee on Transportation, made some announcements in reference to return excursion tickets.

On motion, the time of the session was extended to 4 o'clock.

THE TOPIC: “ THE TEMPERANCE QUESTION IN ITS RELATION
TO YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS,”

was then taken up, and opened by J. W. Shoemaker, of Philadelphia:

Mr. PRESIDENT,—I have no purpose at this hour to make any address. I will only introduce a resolution, supposing you will premise a general speech strong enough to have you carry it. I must ask the permission of this audience to present a resolution on the subject of Temperance, hoping it may be taken up and discussed at a future time.

[The resolution was read, and referred to the Committee on Resolutions.]

I say just this word. I don't believe that the Young Men's Christian Association should be a Temperance organization, any more than you do; but I do believe our Association is organized to battle sin, and to battle as Christian young men should. Then in proportion as intemperance is sin, in such proportion should we fight it. I need not say one word as to the heinousness of the sin of intemperance, as spread over our land to-day.

An invitation was received to attend the 47th Anniversary of the American Sunday School Union, to be held in the Academy of Music, Philadelphia, on Tuesday Evening, May 30th, at eight o'clock.

General Howard, Chairman of Committee on Devotional Meetings, read the following notice of meetings for to-day and to-morrow, and stated those for Sunday would be announced in the evening:

OPEN AIR MEETINGS

at 7 o'clock at the Treasury Building, conducted by W. G. Benedict, of Wisconsin; at Pennsylvania Avenue and Twelfth Street, by E. R. Holden, of Rhode Island; at Pennsylvania Avenue and Seventh Street, by J. G. Parkhurst, of Rhode Island; at Pennsylvania Avenue and Ninth Street, opposite Wall's Opera House, by A. P. Ketchum, of New-York; and at Pennsylvania Avenue and Four-and-a-half Street, by D. E. Small, of Pennsylvania.

MORNING PRAYER MEETINGS.

The "Relay" prayer meeting will be held to-morrow morning at the Ninth Street Methodist Protestant Church. It will be conducted from 6 to 7 o'clock, by Mr. Irvine, of Ohio; from 7 to 8, by Mr. Dean, of Michigan; and from 8 to 9, by Mr. Chase, of Maine.

OPEN AIR MASS MEETINGS

will be held at 7 o'clock to-morrow evening, by Mr. Burnell, of Illinois, at the corner of Seventh Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, and by Mr. Simmons, of Pennsylvania, at the Patent Office.

Adopted.

After prayer and the benediction by the Rev. Geo. Douglass, of Montreal, the Convention adjourned.

THE SERVICE OF SONG.

FRIDAY EVENING.

The Congregational Church this evening was again occupied by another crowded assemblage, called together for song, prayer and conference, H. Thane Miller leading the service. The meeting was opened with the singing of the hymn

"Sweet Hour of Prayer."

Rev. Mr. Brandt, of Indianapolis, read the 14th chapter of St. John's Gospel, the Rev. Mr. Parsons, of Boston, following with prayer.

The President, John Wanamaker, spoke of the service appointed for the evening, and introduced Geo. H. Hall, of Washington, who referred to the Holy Spirit's presence and influence upon the Convention and city, and the hopes and prayers that were accompanying their assembly all over the land for the loved ones who might be brought, through its instrumentality, to God. He concluded with presenting the petition of a member for prayers.

H. Thane Miller:

We will now sing from the bottom of our hearts, "More Like Jesus," after which, dear brethren, while these brothers speak to us let your hearts go up in expecting prayer. Ask God and expect souls to be brought to Him here to-night. Let the brothers who speak tell us what you think of Jesus, whether you recommend him to these perishing souls here.

Dear, dear friends, let us gather very closely around the Saviour to-night. Members of the Associations have need to ask God's blessing upon this Convention, and God hear and answer these prayers.

The Rev. L. Gaetz, of Pictou, Nova Scotia, followed in prayer, and the rest of the evening was given up to short addresses, interspersed with singing and prayer for special cases. Concluding with the singing of "Come Home, Prodigal Child," and "Angels are Hovering Around," by H. Thane Miller, who appealed to the impenitent in the audience to come now and ask for prayer. About 30 individuals requested prayer for themselves, while the petitions for others were very numerous. Mr. Hodder, of England, offered a short prayer, and was followed by Mr. Miller.

The Benediction was pronounced by the Rev. H. W. Read, of Washington.

THE FOURTH DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

SATURDAY, MAY 27, 9:30 A.M.

The President called the Convention to order. Singing, "I'm but a Traveller here;" Reading of the 5th Chapter, 1st Epistle of John, by the Rev. H. W. Read, of Washington; Singing, "Blow ye the Trumpets, Blow;" Prayer by the Rev. C. B. Pitblado, of Nova Scotia.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Business Committee reported, in place of the order heretofore adopted, as follows:

9:30 to 10:15—Miscellaneous Business.

10:15 to 11:00—Topic, "Obstacles in the Way of Organizing and Maintaining Young Men's Christian Associations." Discussion opened by T. K. Cree, of Pittsburg.

11:00 to 12:30—Reports of Y. M. C. Association work in various parts of the country.

12:30 to 1:00—Recess.

1:00 to 1:15—Devotional exercises.

1:15 to 2:00—Practical questions relating to Association work answered.

2:00—Reports of Standing Committees; Consideration of the same; and fixing the time and place for next Convention.

EVENING.

8:00—Address by Hon. S. S. Fisher, of Cincinnati. Subject, "Young Men in Business. What are their Temptations, and How shall they be Resisted?" To be followed by an Address by M. S. Crosby, of Michigan. Subject, "Our Religious Work. How shall it be made more Effectual?" To be followed by Discussion by Delegates only. The exercises will be interspersed with song, prayer and praise.

Adopted.

The President read the following:

CHICAGO, May 26th, 1871.

To the International Convention of Y. M. C. Associations:

General Assembly Presbyterian Church, U. S. A., in session in the City of Chicago, May 26th, 1871, resolved that a telegraphic communication signed by our Moderator, in the name of the Assembly, be sent to the International Convention of Young Men's Christian Associations, now in session at Washington City, expressing to them our brotherly congratulations, with assurances of our prayers for Divine guidance and success in their efforts to promote Evangelical religion, and advance the kingdom of the Great Captain under whose banner we all are enlisted.

Z. M. HUMPHREY, *Moderator.*

EDWIN F. HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*

Attest,

S. DICKSON, *Permanent Clerk.*

Referred to Committee on Resolutions to prepare an answer.

The following was sent by the Committee in response :

WASHINGTON, May 27th, 1871.

General Assembly Presbyterian Church, Chicago, Ill. :

International Convention Young Men's Christian Associations tender their hearty thanks to the General Assembly for their congratulations and assurances of brotherly and Christian sympathy, and will ever pray that the great Head of the Church may prosper and preserve the great Church represented by the Assembly, for the promotion of His glory and the salvation of souls.

JNO. WANAMAKER,

President of Sixteenth International Convention, now assembled.

The Convention then discussed the Topic :

"OBSTACLES IN THE WAY OF ORGANIZING AND MAINTAINING YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS."

On motion, it was ordered that each speaker be limited to three minutes.

Before the discussion, the Convention joined in prayer, led by Robt. Tarlton, of London, and singing :

"Awake, my soul, in joyful lays."

The question was then opened by T. K. Cree, Pittsburg :

The first obstacle we have found is to get a good man to undertake the work of organizing these Associations. An Association here and another there may be organized without any special effort or assistance, but we think we want our numbers doubled of live, active Associations. To do this we must have our prominent Association men engage in this work of discussion and information, and aiding in assisting each other. We have difficulty in getting Associations to interest themselves in the matter. Every Association represented here could go home, and, inside of the next three months, organize another Association. That is the difficulty, to get them to feel their responsibility, and to value their influence. We have difficulty in reaching the right men at the right places, so as to organize. Perhaps the very best men we do not reach. Another great difficulty is getting a good time to organize. We have in our State, and all over the land, a number of places just waiting for the proper time to organize Associations. At one time there is great revival going on and not time to do it. Another time there is great dullness and deadness. One time it is too hot, another too cold. The great difficulty is to find the best time. The greatest difficulty is the misunderstanding of our work. The old idea of Association work was that it was an organization for the helping of young men to establish reading rooms and that kind of a thing. The real work of saving souls is not understood, except where we have an Association. This is a great difficulty in reaching earnest, Christian men, to get them to understand what our Association work means, that it means work for Christ. Another great difficulty is, we despise the day of small things. We look at Chicago, New-York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and other places, and see great buildings erected by years of labor, and we do not want to come into this work in a small way ; are not willing to come down to the work of beginning with four or five young men, and building up. Another difficulty in small towns is jealousy of our organization by the

different denominations. This is in small places an almost insurmountable difficulty. We have also met with the opposition of ministers, churches and laymen. This is, however, solely due to the fact that where there is no Association it is misunderstood. Taking the old idea of Association work, I do not wonder that ministers oppose it.

Indifference of Christians—this we all know is a great difficulty in our work, but more particularly in organizing. If you get Christian men to understand our work, then comes in this indifference and laziness; the failures of previous organizations; Associations have been organized and failed; a vast number of them never paid up, and to our shame they left behind them debts which remain a standing disgrace to professors of Christianity. These organizations have died most disgracefully, died from debt; the want of some good man with faith to take the lead. We need more earnest men in their places. The same difficulty that comes up in our work of organization meets us in maintaining our work. We want earnest, vital godliness in our members. The vast body of our members are lacking in this earnest Christianity. We organize an Association, get a glorious revival, everybody worked up, but after a little while this passes away, and we sink back to dullness and deadness. We want business management. The failure in smaller Associations all over the land was that they lacked business management. Good business men fail to show their love of the Association by giving it the benefit of the business talent God has given to them. The want of money comes under the same head. I believe God gives to us business management, just the same as He plants in our hearts love for Jesus, and we should use both of them for the glory of the Master.

Some unfortunate Church difficulties have come into the Association and split and killed it—never come together until these unfortunate difficulties have been healed. This, I am happy to say, occurred in but very few places. The election of improper officers has killed many an Association. Our failures in Pennsylvania are very few, not more than half-a-dozen out of a hundred, but have resulted largely from the election of improper men to the Presidency and Board of Directors, unwillingness of proper young men to accept positions. We know an Association to day, doing nothing at all, just because the men best fitted have refused to accept important positions. We do not realize the responsibility that rests upon us as individuals, and take that standard of St. Paul: "This one thing I do," and in our Association work, go with this idea, that we are working for Christ, and have this for our motto. The one thing with us, brethren, for young men to consider, is this Christian Association Work.

R. R. McBurney moved that only the smaller Associations, under two hundred members, be heard from. Carried.

J. K. Dissett, Ashland, Ohio:

I come from a town of 2,000 inhabitants. It has an Association of about 100 members. I suppose we have difficulties to contend with in our Association that do not exist in large city Associations. The greatest difficulty comes from the mistakes made by the members of the Association with regard to their work. We have tried to form an Association as we would form a Literary Club. We forgot the great object of Associations was to bring souls to Christ. Then, in small towns, we are so few, we need all the aid possible from both sexes. We sometimes imbibe the idea that Associations should be all composed of young men, and the ladies who could help us in small places are every-

where excluded. We are trying to overcome that, and since we have partially overcome it we are succeeding. Another thing is the jealousy of denominations. If one of the denominations gets control of the organization, the others stand aside and say the Presbyterians or the Baptists are running that and we will let them run it until they run it into the ground. And what there is for us to do, is to get out of this denominationalism and stand by the Association. Put this instrumentality away above sectarianism, and bring denominations together to save men.

Wm. H. Pogue, Jerseyville, Illinois :

I represent a small Association. Associations of this character fail very often because of the lack of some good man for a leader. More attention is paid to get into the Association men of distinguished social or religious position, without reference to whether they are working men, live, earnest Christian men. What we want, sir, is earnest men ; men who think and talk over the objects of the Association ; men whose whole hearts are enlisted in it, and willing to sacrifice themselves for it.

J. W. Ellis, Springfield, Ohio :

We have also a small organization. Have a good circulating library, papers, periodicals, and rooms largely patronized by readers and visitors. But, sir, we lack that vital spark that sets one on fire and makes it aglow with Christian work. We are not going out among young men inviting them in. We are not speaking for Jesus and praying in the presence of these young men.

S. Buttermore, McConnellsville, Pa. :

We have organized in our town an Association ; have been in the work nearly twelve months. We are not willing to gird on the armor. That is the difficulty, and I stand here to ask you to lend us your prayers, that we may take courage to do our whole duty.

Mr. Moore, Somerville, Penn. :

I am glad to give you a little experience of our Association. It numbers 75 members ; began three years ago ; commenced holding open prayer meetings when there were only three persons to sustain the meeting, and last year we had over 30 who came in and took part in our meetings. Three of us came together, and, taking hold of hands, asked God to go with us, and He helping us, we pledged ourselves we would not give over the work. We went forward and had glorious results. When asking our young men to take hold, some said " I cannot do anything." Yes you can. If nothing more, come up there, and show you stand for the Lord Jesus. At the close of the last open air meeting we had five persons raise their hands and ask us to pray for them.

The Convention rose and joined in singing,

" I love to tell the Story,"

after which the discussion was continued by

August Wincher, Wheeling, W. Va. :

We cannot complain of not having money enough to carry on our work, nor that we have not voices loud enough to be heard upon the street. One thing we do lack for Christian work is Christian courage, a manly spirit to stand up boldly for Christ.

John Reeder, Hamilton, Ohio. :

I want to resolve, by the Grace of God, that I will go as if there were none others to go, and do this work ; that I will wait no longer for others, but will, with God's help, keep the Association alive.

C. B. Morris, Montclair, N. J. :

The chief obstacle in our place is the want of a home where the brethren of the denomination can meet. And the reason we have not had it, the people have been too liberal with us in providing us with room rent free. I recommend every Association to have a home, even if it is but 9x12.

H. S. Bartlett, Stoneham, Mass. :

God has blessed us wonderfully. I do believe if Associations with fifteen, twenty or fifty members will go to work in lay preaching, distributing tracts, and religious meetings, God will help their efforts, and they will become a successful Association.

Mr. Manly, Ohio :

I represent an Association in a village of 400 inhabitants. It was organized nearly two years ago and numbers forty or fifty. The young men are determined to work for Jesus, and go forth proclaiming His name wherever they can find a place.

H. J. Stone, Chelsea, Mass. :

We started four years ago with sixty members, and between one and two thousand dollars. I saw it was an artificial life we had. We went to work with all our nice things to undertake to convert souls. We met an utter failure and dwindled down into utter insignificance. We had about 60 officers, some of them brave men, who feared to say anything in a prayer meeting. Two or three faithful souls went to God and prayed to God to shower His blessing upon them ; prayed in secret until their little room filled up, and to-day we can count scores of souls converted to Jesus. Our Sabbath School to-day numbers something like 250 members, and prospered in every way. Believing in God and persistent prayer and devotion did it, nothing else. To-day we are active, expecting victory. We ask the men whom we take from the gutter to come in and pray. They do come in and thank Him for salvation. We have this motto there, Praise God. No sectarianism. Only Jesus Christ.

Hon. Henry Wilson, Natick, Mass. :

The organization whose delegate I am here to-day, I am glad to say, is comparatively in a state of prosperity. It is doing a good work. One reason why it is doing a good work is, that we have a few active, organizing men, who work all the time, and we look to Jesus as the leader, and not to any eminent men, there or elsewhere. There is another reason : we never get in debt. I regard that as one of the prominent causes that injure Associations. We raise our money before we spend it.

I regret, sir, that duties elsewhere have prevented my attending this Convention and listening to your deliberations. I regard these Young Men's Christian Associations in our country as one of the great hopes of our land. I believe it carries the banners of the progress and redemption of our country. Such an opportunity for labor was never given to young men on earth. We have what is left of the aborigines of our country to save and to Christianize if we can ; and we have a great work to do in our cities. The blood that stains

the streets of Paris to-day, the moans that go up on the air, the flames that are devouring, teach us that in great civilized cities and communities there may be a barbarous and savage class of men under the very light of modern civilization. Let us feel that anywhere and everywhere we have a great work to do. I rejoice to read that resolutions were introduced here in favor of the great cause of temperance. After forty years experience as a temperance man it is my conviction, increasing, growing every day, that drunkenness stands more in your way of progress than anything else, and that it stands across the path of Christian progress in our country. I am glad that you look at it. Work for it, labor for it. God in his providence will bless you. Look to Christ as the leader, not to men of wealth, men of social and political position. Often the man of wealth is too much absorbed to labor for Christ, and too often the public men of the country are so engaged in public duties or the ambitions and strifes of life, that they have little left for the sacred and holy cause of Christ on earth.

Take Christ as your leader, young men, and remember that He is a leader greater than any that earth can give. Consecrate yourselves to His service, work for His cause at all times and on all occasions, and lift poor fallen humanity toward the skies.

After the discussion the Convention sang,

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name."

The next business was Reports of Association Work in different parts of the country.

J. K. Noble, Cleveland, O. :

I want to say to the brethren how they are getting hold of men lying in the gutter and lifting them up. Our young men go to the homes of sin and crime. Meeting scepticism in this way by going to these places and to prisons speaking the simple truth in Jesus Christ.

D. W. Glass, Baltimore :

Would that we could hear our Master say to us, "He has done what he could." During the year the Baltimore and Central Associations consolidated. We are endeavoring to establish a building to cost \$300,000. In the space of two months we have raised \$100,000. Our State work is progressing somewhat, but not as much as we desire.

J. Buchanan, Trenton, N. J. :

We have had in our State Annual Conventions of our Associations, and each one of those Conventions has been a great success. The Associations throughout the State are, I believe, almost all of them in good active, working order. I will not repeat the details of the work. I suppose they are the same as in other States.

H. H. Fulton, Toledo, O. :

We are in prospect of a building to cost \$50,000, \$25,000 already raised ; but the great amount of the work done is lifting poor degraded brothers upon the Rock, Christ Jesus. We cannot neglect the salvation of such immortal men, and God will put the means in our hands to do it.

R. H. Hinckley, Philadelphia :

We have just had a building fitted up with parlors, lodging, dining and kitchen rooms, and called it the Young Men's Home. And we intend, instead of letting young men receive poor accommodations in out-of-way places, at a high price, learning bad habits, to give them pleasant rooms at a price within their power. We have also established reading rooms in different parts of the city, in the suburbs instead of having one room in the center of the city. We have also Young Women's Christian Associations incorporated, providing also a home for young women. These are our main details of work, except the Employment Bureau, which has secured employment for over 500 young men since the first of January.

F. Hooker, Warren, Pa. :

I represent a small Association west of the Allegheny Mountains. Six weeks ago it did not have much life in it. But these brethren came, appointed by Bro. Cree, and held a two days' meeting, and men who never attended church, gambling and drinking men came to the meetings, and at the last fifteen rose for prayer.

Thomas Read, Salem, Ohio :

I represent a very large Association in a very small town. No sectarianism with us. At one of Bro. Burnell's meetings with us there were Episcopalians, numbers of the Society of Friends, &c. We have held 471 meetings during the year, and God has blessed the labor for His glory.

G. W. Leonard, Auburn, N. Y. :

A year ago we sent a delegation to Indianapolis. Our Association was about dead. We employed a Secretary and gathered all the members of the Association and went to work. Opened a reading-room ; circulated among our business men inviting them to become members of the Association, and so become interested in it, and instituted Open Air Meetings. Our greatest success has been in prisons and jails. Our prison discharged in the month of April 50 criminals, and 60 in the month of May. We make a point to visit those convicts and talk with them upon the subject of their salvation, and do whatever matters of business they desire to have done. We have loaned them money, and aided them in every way in our power. The work has been very profitable. The convicts acquainted with the Committee are very anxious to meet us out of the prison, and we are very much encouraged indeed in this work for the Master.

" Work, for the Night is Coming,"

was then sung, when the consideration of the subject was continued by K. A. Burnell, Aurora, Ill. :

I want to say a few words about the relation of buildings to this great and blessed work. Eighteen months ago in the little City of Aurora, we raised \$500 to pay rent. A man said to us he would rather give \$100 to build a hall. We took it as the voice of God and raised \$9,000. Our building cost that amount, and was dedicated four weeks ago, and during the time we raised that \$9,000, we have raised over \$100,000 for church buildings. Everybody thanks God. Our building stands upon an island, between the two cities, a most unpretending structure, 24x80. We take the main central room for God. It is God's building all the way up. We don't go into the second or third stories.

The ladies of the city raised \$1,200 in four days, and furnished a room in our building for the Young Women's Christian Association. This society was a direct outgrowth of their endeavor to furnish the young men a building, and to-day they are four weeks old. I would sound it out over this continent to-day if you can raise the money, even if not over \$5,000, build.

J. O. Peck, Springfield, Mass. :

I was asked to speak by our Association from the standpoint of the pastor, because there is too often alienation between the pastor and the Association. The work with us has been done by a few men going about it simply. Making no stir and no show of the Association, men go out in such a way as to endear themselves to the Church of Christ. We have said, God help you brethren! No, there has been no conflict, with perhaps a single exception, because these earnest, faithful men care nothing for outside work; make it simply a matter of saving souls to Christ in the Church. I have baptized men coming out of jail, whom the young men met before they had a chance to get pulled down again, and brought them to the prayer meetings.

President John Wanamaker, Philadelphia :

Our time, in Philadelphia, to get hold of strangers is half-past nine o'clock in the evening. We have a little prayer meeting in our rooms at that hour, just for strangers; spending an hour on the streets with little tickets, with verses of Scripture upon them, and invitation to come to the rooms at half-past nine. We pray for them; shake hands with them, and get acquainted. It is not unusual to see their faces flooded with tears. One poor fellow, not long ago, said, "It is the first kind word spoken to me in Philadelphia." Another plan we have—and I want to recommend it earnestly to the brethren of the Association—is to have a committee in their rooms every night to meet strangers, and when they come in there, to take hold of them and say: How are you? Where do you live? What can we do for you?

Mr. L. Sheafe, Cincinnati, Ohio :

I want to carry this audience for a moment into the Stranger's Home in our city. We open on the 1st of December and close on the first of May. It is for the dirtiest, meanest and lowest of the city. Whole number admitted, 1,397 lodgings furnished, 15,624; average number per night, 125; number of married men, 233; number of single, 1,164; number of temperate, 764; number of intemperate, 633; Protestants, 342; Roman Catholics, 341; no religion, 714. Now, Mr. President, in this place services are held every night, and on the Sabbath there are three services. The result: We know that 233 have found good situations to work honestly and industriously every day; 38 have been converted to Christianity and united with some church. One whom we took from the gutter, often too, has a fine position with a salary of \$1,500 a year, and one of the most active members of one of our churches. Oh! many a poor, sin-sick young man has been led to the Lord Jesus Christ. This work, among the poor, God has blessed.

H. G. Mendenhall, Lafayette College, Pennsylvania :

We have a membership of about 150; have, in connection, four cottage prayer meetings, conducted by members of the Society, and one Temperance Society. Our members, by the blessing of God, brought about such a revival that over a hundred members were brought to Christ. Gentlemen, see what this College has done amongst many others.

On account of the large number of Associations desiring to report, the time was reduced to two minute speeches.

S. F. Huntley, Cornell University, N. Y. :

One of the speakers in discussing the topic on "Obstacles, &c.," said the fear of man was a great one, in forming and sustaining Associations. We have overcome that fear in our Association. When our institution opened, reports from our anxious brethren all over the country came to us, through the press, that Cornell University was sceptical, and, perhaps, infidel. Everything was new then. We had not become acquainted with the Faculty, nor with their views, and were almost afraid these reports were true. Our organization was started cautiously under that fear. We had no test for membership; all who desired were admitted. It did not succeed well; some of the best Christian members of the Ministry refused to join; they could not work in such harness. We changed our Constitution without opposition or complaint, except one member of the Faculty, when invited to attend our meetings, said, that since he had heard we had adopted the test originated at the Portland Convention, he had despaired of the Association doing the work he had at first hoped it would do; but, we have been prospering ever since; our Association is continually increasing, and now numbers about seventy active members. Some members of the Faculty attend our meetings regularly, others attend occasionally, and nearly all are with us in their sympathy and support.

T. J. Wilkie, Toronto :

We have been blessed very much standing at the saloon doors trying to preach the Lord Jesus Christ, and doing all we could to put down these places. We have not a dance house in the city of Toronto.

E. P. Woods, of Lowell, Mass., spoke of a visit to the Associations in the large cities.

W. J. Townsend, Fulton, N. Y. :

I wish to heartily endorse the Philadelphia plan of reaching strange young men by the nine o'clock evening prayer meeting. We follow the same plan and the work has been blessed by God unto great success.

D. B. Ingalls, Clinton, Mass. :

Strive to put in each place and work of our Association the man or men who feel the importance of carrying out that particular work. In Finance and other places, we take men willing to do that work, and the work is done.

J. L. Paul, Dunbar, Pa. :

We have a small Association, about a year old, with a membership of 17. We attended the State Convention last fall, and a brother and myself determined to go home to erect a building for the Association; and by God's blessing we have that building up. It cost \$1,000, and our Association is in a prosperous condition.

G. H. Secor, Albany, N. Y. :

On the 1st of May we had four or five different services on the Sabbath, in the streets and at the Association; and with the utmost cordiality we are working with the Churches.

A. H. Nelson, New Orleans :

In rising to represent Benjamin in this great brotherhood, representing the North, South, East and West, I hear only our rallying cry : " In the cross of Christ we glory."

R. H. Browne, New Orleans :

We have thousands of young men, like all sea port cities, swimming in upon us. We expect to get hold of these young men, although we are hardly in existence yet as an organization, and throw around them social and religious influences.

D. J. Brooks, Salem, Mass. :

We have boys' prayer meeting. 175 boys, between the ages of 10 and 15, meet together once a week in the Association room, and two or three of the older ones lead. Some 25 boys have been converted to Christ, and are now laboring in the Churches. Several years ago our Association was so low that we gave up our room. I say this for the encouragement of declining Associations.

William M. Martin, Brooklyn, N. Y. :

We have had lectures by scientists in our Association, as a means of combatting infidelity in its new phases—materialism and spiritualism. We have added class instruction, music and commercial penmanship, etc.

J. J. Maple, Ann Arbor, Michigan :

I represent a College Association ; have 1,000 to 1,200 students to work among ; at present have 125 active members. Young men on the other side, opposing Association work, have been brought under the influence of the Association and become active members ; and we have special evidence of the blessing of God upon our work.

C. E. Kingsbury, Schenectady, N. Y. :

We expect in the course of two years our building, costing \$70,000, will be finished.

W. R. Davenport, Erie, Pa. :

We have used in our Association work the " Silent Tract Distributor," invented by one of our members, to be placed in hotels and barber shops, railways, coaches, depots, etc. We have distributed 28,000 of these Dublin tracts in this way during the past year.

L. P. Rowland, Jr., Boston, Mass. :

Last year I opposed that ; this year I am ready to go for it.

A. C. O'Hear, Howard University :

In our college we have about 42 members, and every member I think is a Sunday School Teacher. On Friday evening we have prayer meeting ; one in the City Hospital, the Freedmen's Hospital ; also our Wednesday evening prayer meeting is very largely attended by the students.

J. M. Moody, Franklin, Pa., spoke of prison work.

Mr. McCord, Easton, Pa. :

We have got the sympathy of the community more through this jail work than in anything we have done. We work with the Churches, which brings them up to the mark. What they would not do for the love of Christ, they do out of generous emulation.

J. F. Dutton, Ann Arbor, Michigan, spoke also in reference to the Association at Ann Arbor.

H. L. Harrison, East Saginaw, Mich., spoke also upon the jail work, and also of the prosperous condition of the society and its Sunday Schools.

W. D. Messman, Scranton, Pa. :

We show young men that we care for them, and when they come to our rooms take them by the hand, etc. We try to keep them out of saloons by closing them up. We have closed them in the 8th Ward of the city. The officers did nothing towards it, but we as Christians did, and will continue to do so until the officers do their work. We took it to Court, and were successful. We want to have our ladies at work. They are working members. We divide up our city, and give them houses to go to, where poor fellows and poor girls have not received Christian friendship before.

Wm. Frew, Pittsburg :

I am not favorable to recommending a general plan of operations, because wherever you are, there is something peculiar to your location. I would say, in the words of Scripture, "Whatever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might."

H. P. Adams, Dayton, O. :

We raised \$5,000 last year ; employ an assistant to give his entire time to this work ; carry on mission work, Sabbath Schools, and have in process of erection two mission houses.

A. B. Chaffee, Saratoga, N. Y. :

To-day Saratoga stands firm in regard to every house of gambling and prostitution. We have them all indicted. We are doing a great work ; have thrown out inducements to young men in the way of reading-rooms, etc., during the past year.

The time for recess being at hand, after Benediction by the Rev. M. B. Parsons, of Boston, the Convention adjourned.

SATURDAY.—1.30 P. M.

The Convention re-assembled, and after singing

“Blest be the Tie that Binds,”

prayer was offered by the Rev. J. P. Hubbard, of the Episcopal Church, Westerly, R. I. Singing

“How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds.”

The regular order of business, Consideration of Practical Questions, was then proceeded with.

QUESTION DRAWER.

Question.—HOW SHALL THE BUSINESS [MEETINGS OF OUR ASSOCIATIONS BE CONDUCTED SO AS TO SECURE THE ATTENDANCE AND INTEREST OF OUR MEMBERSHIP?

Answer, requested from A. R. Foote, St. Louis.—Our manner of conducting our meetings is to transact our business in Executive Committee. We call the Committee; give as many days' notice as possible, always stating precisely what we want to do; then we do it. Our Committee is made up of business men who have not much time to waste on trifling subjects, and we never call them except for things that are of importance. The result of this has been that our Executive Board meetings are always full and interesting, and the business we want transacted is done promptly. I may say we found that the transaction of business by a large board, in monthly meetings, was exceedingly dull and uninteresting, and had a tendency to keep people away.

Question.—DOES THE ASSOCIATION CONFIRM THE BUSINESS DONE BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, OR DOES THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DO THE BUSINESS, AND THE ASSOCIATION HAVE NO VOICE IN THE MATTER?

Answer.—The Executive Committee do the business of the Association. We have two Boards, the Advisory and the Executive Boards. The Executive Board is composed of fifteen members, who are elected by the Association for one year.

Question by R. R. McBurney.—I WOULD LIKE TO INQUIRE OF THE GENTLEMAN ABOUT THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEES OF THE ASSOCIATION; FOR INSTANCE, THE COMMITTEES ON DEVOTIONAL MEETINGS, CHURCHES, AND VISITATION OF THE SICK. DO THEY REPORT TO THE MONTHLY MEETINGS OF THE WORK DONE?

Answer.—The Standing Committees of the Association report to the Executive Board, and the Secretary of the Association keeps a minute of all these reports, and reads them on the call of any member of the Association.

Question.—WHAT IS THE BASIS OF THE REPRESENTATION IN THE EXECUTIVE BOARD?

Answer.—We have one member from each church. Not from each denomination, but from each church. The member is nominated by the Clergyman of the church, and confirmed by the Association.

Question.—SO THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION HAVE NO HAND WHATEVER IN SELECTING THE BOARD?

Answer.—Any member of the Association has the right to nominate, but we first ask the Pastor to nominate or recommend some one. We do not feel bound to act upon the nomination by the Pastor. We have never had any difficulty with the plan since it was organized, this spring.

Question.—WHAT IS THE CHARACTER OF YOUR MONTHLY MEETINGS?

Answer.—Our Monthly Meetings are attended by people, on the invitation of members—a general invitation. The exercises consist of religious and devotional services. Addresses are given by members of the Association, and sometimes we have a musical entertainment. The Executive Board decide the character of the Monthly Meetings, from one month to another.

Question.—IS THE ACTION OF YOUR COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS MATTERS FINAL, OR DO THEY REPORT TO THE ASSOCIATION, GIVING THE ASSOCIATION THE OPPORTUNITY TO REVERSE ANY ACTION YOU TAKE?

Answer.—The action of the Executive Board is subject to the approval of the Association. On the complaint of a member any action of the Board can be brought before the Association. Five constitute a quorum, and we never fail to have a quorum. Our plan is to make our Monthly Meetings as interesting as possible.

Question.—HOW DO YOU GET YOUR COMMITTEES TO WORK?

Answer, requested from R. R. McBurney.—By giving them a good deal to do, and explaining to them how to do it.

Question.—HOW ARE STATE CRUSADES CONDUCTED, AND WITH WHAT RESULTS?

Answered by K. A. Burnell.—At the Convention last fall, of the Associations of Ohio, it was determined to have a two months' campaign. The brethren took hold of it earnestly and kept it up; some from Cleveland, and some from Cincinnati. In 60 days we visited 35 towns, preaching to 1,500 people or more at each town. Eleven different persons went to nine different places. We went in parties of three persons to each place visited—so there were 70 or 80 different workers personally interested in the campaign. We had open-air services and all kinds of work in each place. In Ohio we were welcomed by the ministers with gladness, with two or three exceptions, and these were just enough to give spice, and stir, and make us look up. We made a flying visit through Pennsylvania, with Mr. T. K. Cree. We visited in 26 days, 16 places, some of them small towns, and I never was more cheered than at some of these last-named places. The small towns are doing the best work. We visited and preached to over 30,000 or 40,000 people. Two towns raised \$500 each for building halls. Another result has been manifest in the wonderful intensifying of religious interest in individuals.

Question.—HOW DOES THE DAYTON (OHIO) ASSOCIATION CONDUCT RAILROAD SABBATH SCHOOLS?

Answered by the Rev. J. Van Horn.—This Railroad Mission School is conducted in passenger cars, switched off on side tracks, and furnished by one of the railroads centering in our city. Two or three cars are run alongside of each other, and the children can sing and be heard through them all. The way the cars are filled up is by persons going out and inviting the boys of the streets to come in. We call it the Railroad Sunday-School. The children are able to sing in concert, because of the contiguity of the coaches. The meetings are held one hour. The singing is very spirited and is conducted by persons in each car. It has been very successful, and soon we hope to build a mission-house near the railroad.

Question.—HOW SHALL WE ENLIST THE HEARTFELT SYMPATHY OF OUR PASTORS?

Answered by the Rev. H. M. Parsons.—That question is a very important one, I think. I believe that the pastors *can* be interested in the Christian Associations. I don't believe that there is one Association in this country, or in

the Provinces, that has not the power to go to the minister or pastor of the church, and show them the work and enlist them in it in some way as co-workers. Work heartily! I have no sympathy with the utterance, that they oppose the Association, and will not have anything to do with it. I think it results because they have not been approached in the right way. In general, every Christian minister, if he loves the cause of Jesus Christ, must love to assist every working Christian Association. I believe that will be demonstrated by the brethren present. I have always loved the organization, although unable to be in at their meetings for months through other duties. But I always say, God-speed to the Association.

Question.—HOW DOES THE CINCINNATI ASSOCIATION PRESENT ITS WORK TO THE PUBLIC?

Answered by H. Thane Miller.—We try to present it, in the first place, by what we do. In the next place, to those who can read or hear of it. The clergymen or pastors in the churches, on every succeeding Sunday night, invite a deputation from the Association to come and speak of that work as they would speak of the Sunday School or the Tract Society. The result has been, in one instance, where Mr. Fisher presented the argument for Young Men's Christian Associations, at the close a gentleman said he would give \$500; another wealthy man said he knew a man who would give a thousand, and he had every faith he would give \$3,000.

Question.—HOW DOES MR. WANAMAKER, OF PHILADELPHIA, MANAGE THE EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE OF HIS ASSOCIATION?

Answered by Mr. Wanamaker.—I appoint a committee, have a room open in the Association; the young men apply and have their names entered. Under the old arrangement, the young men who applied went around saying the Association was a humbug, and did nothing for them; and we found we must change that plan. We rented two rooms, and put in them earnest Christian men. The superintendent of the employment bureau advertised; he staid there two hours every day, to let the young men put their names down; then started out, went to the machine shops and stores, to the friends of the Association. Some made places for them to start the work. Since the first of the year we have secured situations in this way for 575 young men. I would say it is not an intelligence office. Some objections have been made that we just get the people to run around for worthless men who cannot get situations for themselves. These two rooms assort them; the worthless fellows get together; they find there is not much hope for them, and once in a while we get an order from some director for a number of laborers, and ship the whole lot of them. In the other room the young men are; these are the boys we are after, the poor young men and the strangers.

Question.—HOW SHALL OUT-DOOR MEETINGS BE CONDUCTED SO AS TO REACH THE BEST RESULTS?

Answered by K. A. Burnell.—Open with a quotation from God's word. It seems to me men ought to feel very much at home; ought to take it in a very natural way, not in an exhortatory way. I think piling on the exhortations in the open air is unfortunate. They want something true to life. We have men in Central Illinois who, in this open air preaching, display wonderful common sense; beginning in a conversational tone, and then when they come down from the box mingling among the people, and taking them by the hand. I make a specialty of some man. It is this carrying out of individual work which I know God's blessing has rested upon. The man who has got the power of the Holy Ghost must open his mouth and sound out the Gospel, so as to be heard

distinctly. Many of our speakers fail right there. Talk not long on one subject, not more than three or five minutes, with plenty of illustrations.

Question.—WOULD YOU RECOMMEND A SIMILAR CAMPAIGN IN MICHIGAN AS WAS CONDUCTED IN OHIO AND PENNSYLVANIA, AND HOW SHALL IT BE INAUGURATED?

Answer.—In the first place. Mr. M. S. Crosby and a few of you should get together; then come to feel this thing must be done. Then pray for faith not to be diverted from your purpose. As to Michigan, it ought to have had it before. I believe every State represented on this floor ought to have it.

Question.—DID YOU ESTABLISH MANY NEW ASSOCIATIONS IN OHIO?

Answer.—Several Associations, in consequence of our work. Our design was to go where there were Associations, in order to revive them, and to establish new ones particularly.

Question.—ASSOCIATIONS STARTED IN THIS WAY, HOW DO YOU THINK THEY WILL HOLD OUT AFTER THE EXCITEMENT IS OVER?

Answer.—I have heard of three or four doing well. We aim to keep away from excitement as much as possible. This thing can be carried forward without excitement. We would give notice beforehand. We ought to have posters and advertisements in the newspapers, and more preparation. Each place should pay their quota of the expenses.

Question.—WHEN WOULD YOU STRIKE OUT THE NAMES OF UNFAITHFUL MEMBERS, AND HOW WOULD YOU PROCEED SO AS TO GLORIFY GOD, AND SAVE THE MOST SOULS?

Answer by K. A. Burnell.—I think we are not frank enough with the members of the Association. We are not churches. We have no discipline of that sort. When there is a man in our Association who misrepresents the blessed cause we love, I think we ought to say so to him. It is a difficult thing to do it. I have been pained in my travels very much to find men who seemed to make a great display on some occasions, but who unfortunately misrepresented our work.

A DELEGATE WANTS TO KNOW WHAT PLAN PRESIDENT WANAMAKER THINKS MOST EFFICIENT FOR MAKING LIVE, WILLING WORKERS OUT OF NOMINALLY BUT NOT PRACTICALLY ACTIVE MEMBERS?

Answer by Mr. Wanamaker.—Get them to give something; make them do something. Put them in a committee with warm-hearted workers. Tell them what you do it for, and make the place red-hot for them. They will get so uncomfortable that they will turn round and take a new track. If this fails be sure and bring them to the Convention.

Question.—THE BEST WAY TO GET AN ASSOCIATION BUILDING?

Answer by the Rev. J. B. Brandt, Indianapolis.—I think the very best foundation is to do some good Christian work before we attempt to get a building. We can do that without a building, and when we have done this and done it effectually, the people of the town or city in which we are will be ready to help us. Then when we have the good feeling of our people, go to work and raise subscriptions. Have it understood that every dollar that goes into the building belongs to the Association; that the Association shall control it, and shall reap the benefits from it, that it shall be in every sense an Association building. And only by earnest, faithful effort, continued day by day, week by week, and month by month, can this be accomplished, with the earnest prayers of the faithful workers of the Association. This is our experience in Indianapolis.

Question.—HOW TO CONDUCT COTTAGE PRAYER-MEETINGS?

Answer by C. E. Kingsbury, Schenectady, N. Y.—We have held cottage prayer-meetings for a long time. Our method has been to select some member of our Association to take charge of these meetings, and take along some three or four of the members of the Association for assistants. We give the notice during the day in some neighborhood, and the people are invited out. Then the brother takes charge of the meeting in the ordinary mode adopted in prayer-meetings, reading a chapter, and calling on the brothers to pray.

Answered also by L. Gaetz, of Nova Scotia.—One word as to cottage prayer-meetings. They are glorious institutions with us. Organized ever since the Association was commenced, and conducted by a special committee on cottage prayer-meetings, and that committee selecting the locality where the meeting is to be held. In a town of 5,000 people, five cottage meetings are held every week. It has been a blessed work with us, and the means of bringing many souls to Christ. Every Association ought to conduct them.

The Committee on Associations, reported as follows: which was adopted.

The Committee on Associations beg to report: That with reference to resolution offered by Mr. J. V. Osterhout, Webster, Mass., respecting public meetings of the Associations to hear reports from delegates to this Convention, they believe such meetings highly desirable, and that it is the almost universal custom to hold them.

That the first clause of a resolution offered by Mr. Payne, of Illinois, respecting State Conventions, is already covered by action of Portland Convention. In reference to the latter clause, suggesting that they be held in connection with State Sabbath School Associations, your Committee consider that while in some instances such an arrangement might be desirable, they would suggest that the question be left entirely to the judgment of the State Executive Committees.

Your Committee would recommend the adoption of the following resolution, offered by S. E. Lovejoy, of Lowell, Mass.

Whereas, Great good has attended systematic organization for the prosecution of the work of the Associations in several of the States, where State Central Committees have been appointed, therefore,

Resolved, That this Convention heartily endorses such measures, and considers them a sign of advancement in the prosecution of our noble work.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the different Associations represented in this Convention, that they take some measures previous to the adjournment of this body, for the appointing State Executive Committees in every State where such Committees do not now exist.

J. S. Maclean, Chairman of the Committee on report of the Executive Committee, reported as follows:

In regard to the fifth recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Committee offers the following resolution:

Resolved, That the ratio of representation in the International Conventions shall be as follows: Two delegates from each Association of one hundred members, or less, and one additional delegate for each additional one hundred members; but no Association shall be allowed more than fifteen delegates;

the election of delegates to be governed in all respects by the rules and resolutions of the International Conventions.

Mr. East, Philadelphia, moved that this resolution relating to representation be adopted.

A. J. Chase, Portland, Me., moved to amend by allowing two members to each Association having one hundred members, and one more for each hundred or fraction of the same over fifty. Lost.

L. P. Rowland, Boston, moved to amend by reducing the maximum number to ten instead of fifteen. Carried.

A. J. Chase, Portland, Me., moved to lay the report on the table.

The Convention, before considering this motion, engaged in singing

" All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name,"

and prayer for guidance upon the matter was offered by R. R. McBurney and H. Thane Miller, after which the motion to lay on the table was lost unanimously, and motion to adopt carried.

In regard to the sixth recommendation of the Executive Committee, and also the resolution submitted on the subject, the Committee recommend that the International Conventions remain Annual Conventions as at present.

G. W. Keys, Olivet, Mich., moved to adopt this resolution relating to Annual Sessions.

Mr. Frew, Pittsburg, Pa., moved to amend by making the sessions biennial. Lost.

Motion to adopt carried.

Resolved, That we recommend for use among the Associations the Life Membership Certificates prepared by the Executive Committee under the instructions of the Portland Convention, and approved by the Indianapolis Convention.

G. E. Lovejoy, Lowell, Mass., moved its adoption. Carried.

Resolved, That no Association be placed upon the rolls prepared for future Conventions, by the Executive Committee, unless the Executive Committee have been previously furnished with a copy of the Constitution of such Association, and the number of its members of each class.

Adopted.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be instructed to prepare a circular for the information and direction of Corresponding Members.

Adopted.

Resolved, That the use of the hymn book, "Songs of Devotions," is earnestly recommended to the Associations; but, as the price is a great obstacle in the way of its general adoption, we beg to suggest to the publishers the propriety of issuing a cheaper edition.

Adopted.

Resolved, That the Corresponding Members be instructed to arrange for and hold Conventions of the Young Men's Christian Associations in their respective States, Territories, Districts, and Provinces, and that they make every exertion to secure the attendance of young men from places where there are no Associations. And this Convention urges upon the Corresponding Members the duty and great importance of a frequent and regular correspondence with the Executive Committee.

Adopted.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention be tendered to the gentlemen who, at the request of the Executive Committee, have prepared and read papers upon the topics selected for discussion, for the kind and able manner in which they have performed these services.

And that copies of their papers be requested, and that the publication of the whole or parts of the same be referred to the Executive Committee.

Adopted.

Your Committee recommend the election of the following as Corresponding Members of the Executive Committee for the respective States, Districts, Territories and Provinces:

Quebec	
Ontario	W. J. McCALLA, <i>St. Catharines</i> .
Nova Scotia	JAMES FARQUHAR, <i>Halifax</i> .
New Brunswick	WILLIAM WELCH, <i>St. John</i> .
Prince Edward's Island	JAMES FRASER, <i>Charlottetown</i> .
Maine	HENRY H. BURGESS, <i>Portland</i> .
New Hampshire	J. P. NEWELL, <i>Manchester</i> .
Vermont	L. W. HAWLEY, <i>Brattleboro</i> .
Massachusetts	L. P. ROWLAND, <i>Boston</i> .
Rhode Island	EDWIN R. HOLDEN, <i>Providence</i> .
Connecticut	HENRY S. STIRLING, <i>Bridgeport</i> .
New York	JOHN I. PLATT, <i>Poughkeepsie</i> .
New Jersey	CHARLES B. MORRIS, <i>Montclair</i> .
Pennsylvania	C. C. SHIRK, <i>Erie</i> .
Maryland	J. G. BERGEN, <i>Baltimore</i> .
District of Columbia	GEORGE A. HALL, <i>Washington</i> .
Western Virginia	ALVARADO F. GIBBONS, <i>Charlestown</i> .
South Carolina	V. C. DIBBLE, <i>Charleston</i> .
North Carolina	
Kentucky	JOHN L. WHEAT, <i>Louisville</i> .
Georgia	
Ohio	H. P. LLOYD, <i>Cincinnati</i> .
Indiana	M. R. BARNARD, <i>Indianapolis</i> .
Illinois	D. J. PIKE, <i>Aurora</i> .
Missouri	

Michigan	FRANK D. TAYLOR, <i>Detroit</i> ,
Wisconsin	GEORGE S. MARSH, <i>Whitewater</i> .
Nebraska	
Iowa	
California	
Minnesota	W. O. HISKEY, <i>Minneapolis</i> .
Kansas	
Mississippi	
Tennessee	LEWIS GODFREY, <i>Greenville</i> .
Louisiana	A. H. NELSON, <i>New Orleans</i> .
Virginia	H. W. BEADLE, <i>Alexandria</i> .
Alabama	
Florida	

Resolved, That the Committee on the Report of the Executive Committee be permitted to receive, at the close of this session, from the delegations from States, districts, territories and provinces for which Corresponding Members have not been appointed, nominations for such Corresponding Members, and, in their discretion, recommend them to the Executive Committee for appointment; and that the Executive Committee have power to fill vacancies among the Corresponding Members.

Adopted.

Resolved, That, in future, the names of persons to act as Corresponding Members be designated, as far as practicable, by the State Conventions respectively, and that the Executive Committee communicate with each Corresponding Member for the present year, calling attention to this resolution.

Adopted.

Resolved, That the report of the Treasurer of the Executive Committee be approved and audited, and printed with the report in the Proceedings of the Convention.

Adopted.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee prepare and publish a report of the Proceedings of this Convention, including the report of the Executive Committee.

Adopted.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be instructed to call a meeting of the International Convention of 1872, at the city of _____, State of _____, at such time as shall be agreed upon by them after consultation with the Convention in that city.

On motion, the blank in resolution, in reference to next Convention, was filled by inserting Lowell, Mass. The resolution was then adopted.

The Committee on Resolutions reported that resolutions have been received upon the following subjects, upon which they recommend the following action :

I.—*Relating to Profanity.* Recommended with modification. As modified it reads as follows :

Resolved, That the prevalence of profanity in our land is a terrible evil, and Christian men and women are earnestly entreated to make all their speech pure and free from even the appearance of evil.

II.—*Relating to Applause in the Associations.* Recommended that it is inexpedient to adopt it. All applause is technically disorder ; and whether it should be permitted at all, as well as the time and character of it, should, in the judgment of the Committee, be left to the good sense of the Association and the wise discretion of the presiding officer. A similar resolution, presented at the Indianapolis Convention, was laid upon the table by a large majority.

III.—Resolutions upon the co-operation of the Associations with Evangelical Churches, upon labor among the colored race, upon endorsing the Indian policy of the Administration, upon the introduction of political subjects at National Conventions, upon temperance, and upon the adoption of a uniform series of lessons for Sabbath Schools, are reported back, with the recommendation that it is not expedient to adopt them in their present form.

As to the resolution relating to co-operation with Evangelical Churches, attention is called to the resolutions upon this subject adopted at Portland, which we recommend be reaffirmed.

As to the resolutions relating to temperance, attention is called to the resolution of the Portland Convention upon this subject, which we recommend be reaffirmed.

As to the resolution offered relating to colored young men, attention is called to the resolution of the Portland Convention on this subject.

In lieu of these resolutions the following resolution is submitted for adoption :

Resolved, That Young Men's Christian Associations are organized specially to labor for and among young men ; that they constitute a Union Board of the Church of Christ, charged with the performance of a specific duty ; that in the prosecution of their work, the Associations, as such, have no politics, and know no distinctions among men except between those who love Christ and those who love Him not ; and that it does not fall within the sphere of their duties to take part in any controversy, or to make official deliverance upon any topic, however commendable in itself, or however it may appeal to the Christian or humanitarian sympathies of individuals, which does not relate directly to the work of evangelization among young men by the agencies appropriate to their own organization.

The Report as read was adopted.

R. R. McBurney moved that at quarter to four o'clock the business session close, and that we spend the time in devotional exercises, and that the Secretary read the minutes now after the business.

Adopted.

The Committee on Credentials presented the following, which was adopted :

The Committee to which was assigned the duty of examining the credentials of the Delegates and the Corresponding Members, and to prepare a list of the same, beg leave to submit the following:

LIST OF DELEGATES.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

New-York City.

STOKES, JAMES, Jr.
WETMORE, BENJ. C.

HUTCHINS, EDGAR A.
McBURNIEY, ROBERT R.

MORSE, VERRANUS.

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

WILLIAM ANDERSON Toronto, Ontario.
JAMES FARQUHAR, Halifax, N. S.
JOHN I. PLATT, Poughkeepsie N. Y.
WILLIAM J. CARLTON, Elizabeth, N. J.
EDWIN R. HOLDEN, Providence, R. I.
D. W. GLASS Baltimore, Md.

GEORGE A. HALL, Washington, D. C.
L. P. ROWLAND, Jr., Boston, Mass.
M. R. BARNARD, Indianapolis, Indiana.
H. J. COWLES, Madison, Wis.
T. K. CREE, Pittsburg, Pa.

ENGLAND.

London

HODDER, MATTHEW.

BRIT. PROVINCES.

CANADA EAST.

Montreal

BISHOP, GEO.
BENTLEY, DAVID,
CRAIG, THOMAS,
CLAXTON, JAMES T.,
CUSHING, CHARLES,
COURT, W. B.,
DOUGLAS, GEO.,
SANDHAM, ALF.,

Quebec.

THOMSON, JNO. C.

CANADA WEST.

Toronto

ADAMS, JNO.,
BRIGGS, S. R.,
CRAIG, T. D.,
FINCH, CHAS. S.,
JOSELYN, CHAS.,
MORSE, GEO. R.,
WEBB, THOMAS,
WILKIE, THOS. J.

ONTARIO.

Hamilton.

JAMES, W. E.,
MACKELCAN, H. A.,
THOMAS, SHERIFF,
YOUNG, GEO. A.

Paris.

MORROW, M.

Port Hope.

CRAIG, JR., WM.

St. Catharines.

BEADLE, D. W.,
COPELAND, W. L.,
MCALLA, W. J.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

St. John.

BOTSFORD, L. B.,
FOSTER, EDWIN C.,
DE MATTOS, J. C.,
STEWART, JOHN.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Antigonish.

BECK, W. J.,
KING, T. M.

Glenelg.

PITBLADO, C. B.

Halifax.

MCLEAN, JNO.,
MACINTOSH, J. C.,
MONTGOMERY, W. M.,
MCBEAN, ALEX.

Pictou.

GARTZ, L.

Truro.

BLAIR, JAMES K.,
BAIRD, ISAAC.

Windsor.

CURRY, EDWARD,
GARVIE, A. R.,
NICOLSON, A. W.

DIST. OF COLUMBIA.

Washington.

CHOATE, W.,
BURE, D. A.,
FREEMAN, W. A.,
HOWARD, O. O.,
LLOYD, CLINTON,
RICHARDS, Z.,
SEATON, D. F.,
SMITH, P. H.,
STUART, A. T.,
THOMAS, J. L.,
VAUGHN, F. W.,
WINSLOW, B. F.

Howard University, (Washington.)

GRASTY, ENOCH H.,
STEWART, T. MC.,
O'HEAR, A. C.

CALIFORNIA.

Petaluma.

MATHEWS, O. B.

CONNECTICUT.

Bridgeport

BOWDISH, W. W.,
BROWN, W. E.,
CARR, DABNEY,
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WISCONSIN.

Beloit.
BENSON, H. H.

Delavan.
COLLIE, JOSEPH.

Janesville.
BARROWS, E. S.,
CHENEY, RUSSELL,
KIRKWOOD, T. C.

Madison.
COWLES, H. J.,
TOWER, W. P.

Milwaukee.
BENEDICT, W. G.

Whitewater.
BRIDGE, J.,
MARSH, GEO. S.

The Committee is obliged to report much delay on the part of Delegates in handing in their credentials, and believe that there are many who, notwithstanding the exertions to secure a complete list of members of the Convention, have wholly failed to report to the Committee. The names of such, therefore, will not appear on the list.

In view of the unnecessary amount of work devolving upon the Committee, the result of the dilatoriness on the part of Delegates in reporting their names, we would respectfully suggest that in the future there be a Temporary Credential Committee appointed at the very first, who should be stationed at the door of the place of meeting, so that no Delegate should be able to gain access to the Convention till he is duly accredited a member of the same.

It now appears that in several cases Associations have sent a larger delegation than their membership entitles them to.

The Committee, in view of these circumstances, would therefore recommend that in future there be left a blank on the printed forms for credentials recommended by the Executive Committee, to be filled by each Association with a number representing its membership.

S. SHERBERNE MATHEWS,
Chairman Committee on Credentials.

After devotional exercises, under the leadership of the President, the benediction was pronounced by the Rev. Mr. Grimes, of Boston, and the Convention adjourned to meet in the Congregational Church in the evening.

EVENING SESSION—SATURDAY.

The Convention met in the Congregational Church, at 8 o'clock, P. M., President Wanamaker in the Chair.

The meeting was opened with two minutes' silent meditation, followed with prayer, by E. A. Hutchins, of Brooklyn, N. Y. and singing

"Shining Shore."

Vice-President M. R. Barnard, of Indianapolis, read the 46th Psalm, when J. S. Maclean, of Halifax, offered prayer, after which

“ Battling for the Lord ”

was sung.

Hon. S. S. Fisher, of Cincinnati, Ohio, then made an address on the discussion of the Fourth Topic, “ Young men in business : what are their temptations, and how shall they be resisted ? ” as follows :

This topic was to have been introduced to the Convention by Rev. Dr. Reed, of Chicago. By the death of Bishop Clarke he is prevented from attending our meetings, and, within the last thirty hours, his mantle has fallen upon me. Would that, with the mantle of the man of God, I might also receive a double portion of his spirit.

This topic deals with temptations—temptations to sin. It bids me answer first the question—“ What are the sins which young men in business are specially tempted to commit ? ” This is a practical inquiry, and I can only deal fairly with you by giving it an honest and straightforward answer, calling things by their right names, and refusing utterly to concede that wickedness is any the less wicked because it is common, or because it hides its ugly features behind the mask of respectability.

What a vast throng of young men crowd annually into all our great commercial centres ! Not an hour passes that some youth does not press, for the first time, with the hesitating step of a homeless stranger, the streets that he hopes ere long to tread with the confident walk of the prosperous citizen. Let us follow him. He has come from some dear country home. The kisses of the loved ones still linger on his lips. He seems still to feel the farewell grasp of a father's hand. The odor of the flowers that embosomed his far-off home has scarcely faded, and his eyes yet seem to linger on the green fields of his native town. But, suddenly, he finds himself alone. In a throng of busy men, and yet alone. There is no desolation like this. A man may lament that he reigns, king of solitude, upon some desert shore—he may feel the solemn stillness of some gloomy forest or of some snow-clad mountain top—but he will never be so lonely as when, surrounded by the works of man, and in the midst of men, he realizes that no heart in all the throng feels one throb of sympathy for him, and no eye kindles at his coming. To this terrible loneliness is added utter helplessness. Here are men at work, but there is no work for him. These men have food and shelter ; he is homeless and poor. He goes about from store to store. He eagerly reads the column of wants. He applies in every quarter, however unpromising. Nearly every place is filled ; others require skilled labor or demand an experience which he has yet to acquire ; others scarcely conceal their distrust of him ; others openly insult him, as if it were a crime to seek to earn his bread. His money is all gone. Credit he never had. His landlord is clamorous, his clothing scant and threadbare. Now he is ready to become the prey of evil men. Under such circumstances as these, a young man in Cincinnati went with chance companions upon what was represented as a frolic. Almost unconsciously to himself, he found himself, presently, holding the lantern, while his companions broke open a store. An alarm was given. They fled. He was captured and convicted of the burglary :

but it so plainly appeared that the whole act on his part was so entirely unpremeditated, and so wholly the result of the o'ermastering temptation of bad company, that he was pardoned by our humane and Christian Governor.

But our young friend may be fortunate enough to obtain a situation. He finds a place in a large establishment, conducted by wealthy and prosperous men—members of the church, and ranked among "our merchant princes" in the newspapers. Surely now his trials are over. He has only to be an honest employee, scrupulously exact in all his dealings; telling the truth to everybody; and guarding his own and his employer's honor, and success is assured. He has read something like this in the good little books in the Sunday School library at home, and he has taken the best of the good young men there described for his model.

He is a book-keeper in an auction store. Goods consigned to his employers for sale are sold at a high figure, but, to his astonishment, he is told to enter the sales at a lower rate, while his employers pocket the difference, or he is instructed to prepare false entries for the officers of internal revenue. A young man, a church member, found himself in a place like this, obeyed such commands as these, and, before a year had passed, employed his fatal knowledge of false entries to rob his employers as they taught him to rob those who confided in them.

A young man who was book-keeper for a commission house was told to enter up against their customer certain charges for drayage, storage, insurance, and like items, which charges had not, in fact, been incurred or paid. His employer was a member in good standing of a church. "I cannot make these entries, sir; no such expenses have been paid, I dare not say so." He was nevertheless directed to make the entries. A few days afterward his employer looked at the books. "Where are those entries of charges on consignments?" "I have not made them, sir; I cannot make them." "Then you must leave my employ. I can keep no man in my service who cannot conduct my business in the way in which business is done."

But perhaps he is a salesman in the shop. Does he dare to tell his customer honestly that the goods which he offers him are not as they appear? That they are imperfect, or appraised above their real selling value, in anticipation of a demand for a reduction which the customer does not make? To tell the truth, or to fail, when necessary, to tell an untruth, in these and the like particulars would insure his dismissal.

Perhaps he is selected to travel and solicit custom or collect bills. This brings him under the influence of a new class of temptations. Whatever good associations he may have been able to form in his place of business are at once broken up or suspended. He can no longer teach in or attend upon the Sabbath School. He is unable to discharge with regularity any series of duties outside of his business, and he is obliged to decline such duties. As he goes hither and thither over the land, entering into and departing from one town after another, as a stranger, he loses all religious association; he forgets or does not find the prayer meeting. Business over in one place, he presses on to the next, frequently using the Sabbath for the purpose of travel; or should he find himself in some hotel upon that day, he is jaded and weary, spends the day in sleep, reads novels, takes a drive, or smokes and lounges with some chance companion. If he would attend upon some church, he feels that perhaps he may not be welcome. Not every sanctuary has upon its portal the noble motto carved in marble at the entrance of the Lee Avenue Building—

"Ever welcome to this house of God
Are strangers and the poor."

Our missionary once found a young man and invited him to our services. He came, but resolutely refused to attend church. "When I came here," he said, "I went one day into one of the largest churches, and walked all the way down the aisle and all the way back again, and no one moved, or, by word or look, invited me to a seat. I went out into the street and vowed that I would never enter a church in Cincinnati again."

When the traveler returns to his home, conscious of demoralization, he cannot return to better habits with zest. He has become restless and unhappy, has got out of the line of healthy and regular duty, has no sympathy with that which has been done in his absence, does not care to become interested in it during the few days or weeks that may precede his next journey. While upon his business round, he hails with delight anything that can relieve the terrible *ennui* of the evenings, and he is ready to respond to temptation in almost every form. His ambition to make sales and report a large amount of orders, upon which perhaps he is to receive a percentage, constantly tempts him to the commission of all the offences against truth, to all the trifling with integrity and uprightness of dealing, to all the sacrifice of manly independence of character, which defile and destroy so many modern business men, until perhaps he comes at length to utter flippantly the atrocious maxim, heard, alas, sometimes from the lips of so-called Christian men, that "religion is religion, but business is business."

If, however, our young clerk remains at home, it is possible that a worse fate may befall him. He possesses an attractive face and manner, and the shrewd employer sees that he is formed to influence men. He is therefore elevated, or degraded, to the position of drummer. He is to visit the hotels in search of Western merchants, or he is to seize upon them as they enter his store, and so to entertain and win them that they shall buy only of him or of his employers. To secure this end, he is also encouraged with a percentage of sales made through his influence; and in some cases a secret service fund is set apart for his use, upon which he may draw in moderation, without being required to give account of the details of its appropriation. In the fulfilment of this duty he is to have but one aim, and that is to secure the customer. He is taught that all means are lawful to that end which do not violate the criminal laws of the land. He may make the man drunk, but he must not drug his liquor. He may deceive and bamboozle him, but he must not pick his pocket.

He is expected, in short, to make the customer's acquaintance, to study him, to learn his tastes and habits, to ferret out his vices, not to reform them, but to pander to them. If the man smokes, he supplies him with tobacco; if he drinks, he supplies him with liquor; if he chancies to be a Christian, he takes him to the prayer meeting; if a lover of music, to the opera; if fond of the drama, to the theatre; if a debauchee, to the brothel. Whatever phase of "life," as they call it, he may wish to see, it is the business of this young man to exhibit it to him. Can he do these things without participation? Can a man touch pitch and not be defiled? He is defiled; he acquires the vices to which he ministers; he becomes a drunkard, a trifler, a *roué*, a gambler, until, presently, ruined in soul and body, he is cast forth by the men who encouraged and paid him to enter into temptation. If he resists these evils in their worst effects, he loses all confidence in truth or godliness; he scouts at the Christianity of his employer, or of the men who come as his customers, and do in his company, in New York, what they would scarcely dare to think of in the country village where their names stand high upon the rolls of respectability. He comes to

believe that there is nothing but hypocrisy in the world, and that to be a finished hypocrite, is to ensure a happy mingling of success and pleasure in the journey of life.

Other temptations assail him. He lacks society. No respectable doors are open to him. He is, it may be, fairly educated, with attractive manners and good principles, and yet he sees the homes of good men and good women shut against him that open freely to young men of wealth, whose lives and character are notoriously corrupt and despicable. The virtuous and well educated daughters of the land lean with pleasure on the arm of gilded corruption, while they touch not modest but toiling virtue with so much as the hem of their garments. Repelled from the company of the good and pure, he seeks that of the depraved and abandoned.

The hours of the evening hang heavily on his hands. His rooms, at some cheap boarding house, are cheerless. His companions uncongenial. He has intellectual cravings but knows not where to satisfy them. Nature, tired with toil, needs relaxation and amusement; but, few innocent amusements are within his reach. He loves music; has a taste for art; would be satisfied with a few simple pleasures and the society of a few earnest and yet cheerful men. He knows not where to find them. As he walks the streets he notes how vice ministers to all these appetites; how attractive are her palaces; how attentive the ministers at her altars. Flashing upon him from every side her light-houses invite him to enter her harbors. Her signal lanterns tell him that the way is clear for a straight run to her depots of pleasure. Voices invite him to turn aside; the voices of young men like himself who sympathize with his wants and cravings; the voices of those more dangerous because more winning, who mark him for their prey and would avenge their own ruin in his destruction.

His salary is small, and yet he beholds his fellow clerks living, as it seems to him, far beyond their means. His employer is, in his family life, a miracle of extravagance. No one, from highest to lowest, seems to have a higher aim than to get money and to spend it. This element of demoralization soon takes root in him. He acquires rapidly tastes and habits beyond his means, and he is tempted to increase those means by unlawful practices. Thus, sometimes he becomes a gambler, and sometimes a felon. Even when he has married, and has environed himself with the safeguards of a virtuous home, he finds that his wife cannot be contented to live upon his moderate salary. She has been accustomed to better things, and the romance of the honeymoon being passed, she demands more luxuries, and sighs for higher social position. A few weeks ago a young man plucked, as was hoped, from a dissipated and worthless life, found a good situation, united with the Church, and strove to live an upright life. His salary was small, but sufficient, but his wife demanded better furniture and more expensive clothing. First, he borrowed money, then he stole it, and now in a prison cell weeps bitterly, and exclaims, in agony of soul, "Oh! how *could* I do it!"

Such are some of the temptations that beset young men. The tithe of them has not been told and cannot be. Meanwhile the employer pursues the even tenor of his way, in apparent unconsciousness of the existence of the soul that God has committed to his keeping. He tempts him to evil—he reaps the profit of the wrong—he connives at the dishonesty—he has no word of reproach or warning—until, some day, he becomes the prey of the vices which he has taught and nourished, and then none so indignant and so unrelenting as he.

How shall these temptations be resisted? Brethren, what a solemn problem

is here presented for solution! I know the one great answer that rises to your lips—that nothing but the grace of God in the hearts of these young men can effectually protect them; but, if I understand the topic, it calls for a further reply. What means, what appliances, can be provided for the assistance of these men? What weapons can we put into their hands? With what armor can we clothe them? What barrier can we raise between them and the evils we have sketched? Since this topic was assigned to me, I have put this question to many earnest, thoughtful, God fearing men. Last night, overcome with the weight of this problem, I flung myself by the side of the table where I wrote, and cried, "O Holy Spirit, enlighten me!" While the laws of trade remain as they are, while the thirst for gain is so consuming, what can be done for these our brethren?

Perhaps we may not be able to do much to destroy the temptation, but something may be done to destroy its force upon the soul.

Let the homeless stranger be met upon the threshold of the great city by those who prove themselves to be his friends, so that he can never truly call himself homeless or friendless. Let suitable employment agencies be established to furnish him with some kind of work, so that idleness may not come with its attendant evils, and so that all sense of dependence may be taken away. Let rooms be provided, where he may feel himself to be always welcome; where he may find good books, periodicals and newspapers; where he may meet with cheerful faces and take part sometimes in cheerful and innocent amusement—provide music for him—minister to his intellectual wants with lectures, classes for study and other appropriate appliances—open your homes to him, or provide for him social gatherings, where good and pure women may exercise over him some of the good influences of the absent mother and sisters. Better still, give him the companionship and encouragement of young men tempted as he is, and yet trusting every hour to Him who is able to succor those that are tempted—who can encourage him in the right, who can understand his trials, to whom he can confide his perplexities, who can impart to him as he marches in their ranks that "touch of the elbow," which Gen. Scott said converted even cowards into brave and gallant soldiers. More than all, lead him to Christ, so that he may trust in Him, and lean upon Him and commune with Him, until, as I heard an aged saint once say, "It seems as if the Lord Jesus were always walking by my side."

Dear brother, sorely tempted, stand firm. Be of good courage. When sinners entice thee, whether of high or low degree, consent thou not. It may seem hard to lose one's situation; but one who had many opportunities for observation said, "I have been young, and now am old, and yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, or his seed begging bread." If it comes to a question whether the soul or the body must perish, consider well what it shall profit a man to gain the whole world and lose his soul!

If you can, keep out of the great cities. There is plenty of work for you upon the countless acres that want hands to till them, and there are giant forests yet unfelled that keep watch from their highest tree-tops to hail the first coming of man. Do not go down to the guilt, the vice, the temptation of the cities; you are not wanted there, while you are wanted on the broad prairies, to build churches and school houses, and to rear towns and cities, that, from foundation stone to turret, shall from the beginning be all aglow with love for God and humanity.

And shall we not all of us see to it that a better public sentiment is created upon the subject of business morals? Is it really impossible, friends, for a man

to be "diligent in business, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord?" If the church of God to-day, should awake to this evil among her own membership, and should give us more Christian merchants, who were truly christians, the leaven would soon affect the whole lump, and business morals would be far better and purer than they are. Shall we go down and drag our robes in the mire of the world, or shall we not take a higher stand, so that a christian may be known in his counting house, as well as in his church upon the Sabbath?

And now, Christian merchant, what of your duty? Look upon this young man. To-day radiant with hope and pure in heart, he comes into your office, your counting house, your store—lead him not into temptation—surround him with good influences—set before him an honest example—give him a word of kindness and encouragement, and you may look to see him become a faithful servant to you, to his age, and to his God. But lay upon him these burdens of temptation, and to-morrow behold him depraved in mind, polluted in body, a curse to himself and the world—the next day behold him an outcast or a criminal—the next, filling an unknown grave in some Potter's field. I tell you, that if human judgment were as unerring as that of the Almighty, some should lay by his side whose dust reposes under the shadow of marble shafts, or beneath the dome of princely vaults.

Last night when the requests for prayer were offered, oh, how my heart went out for the hundreds of thousands of young men battling then, and battling now, with sore temptations. Brethren, pray for them; brethren, work for them, and fling between them and the fiery darts of the tempter the shield of a brother's heart, made invulnerable by baptism in the fountain of life everlasting.

H. Thane Miller sang

"Nowhere to Lay my Poor Head."

Prayer was offered by H. K. Browne, of New Orleans. The discussion of the subject was then taken up by J. F. Keeler, Pittsburg, Pa.:

Brethren, we are guilty before God for these temptations, standing out before young men, leading them astray. It is our expensive living, encouraging luxury and show, that has brought these temptations upon the majority of these young men. We have got to repent for this. Our good brother informs us that there are vast forests in the West inviting young men to hew them down. I was born and brought up on a farm; I know something of the lonely character of farm life, and the aspirations of young men there to know something of the world; and, until somebody shall be wise enough to make agricultural life more intellectual than it has been, the young men will never be contented with their country life. I mention another fact. I am a manufacturer, and I say to you, to-day, there is room enough and work enough in this occupation for all. If these young men will only become practical and settled mechanics, only learn a trade, that is all they need to make them men.

Mr. Brandt, Massachusetts:

I rise, Mr. President, to express my gratification for this address, which has presented before us, so clearly, the dangers young men are exposed to in our cities. Many of us, simple-minded, have not imagined these temptations and did not know their magnitude. Another feature of the address pleased me; it brings us back to the work for which these Associations were formed, to supplement the teaching of the home and the church. No young man is fitted for

business unless he has been taught the great truths of Christianity and morality at home, and in the Sabbath-school, and in the church. It seems to me it is the business of this Association to supplement that teaching when they go abroad. If this has not been taught at home, we are to look for them as they come into the cities, and gather them into our Sabbath-schools, and surround them with social and moral relations that will protect and strengthen them against these dangers.

R. H. Browne, New Orleans :

I have been deeply interested in the address, and think that Tom Hood's "Song of the Shirt" tells the whole story. In the city from which I come, who seek it? Like San Francisco, it has been regarded as a sort of El Dorado by young men. They have sought it by the thousands, and by thousands have laid their bones there, never to return to their homes again. How shall we help them to resist? It is this. When these young men ask you for bread they do not ask you for Christianity. Open your hearts to them when they come to you and tell you they are willing to work. Open to them the means to obtain work, and at the same time you bind them to Christ.

C. D. Nott, St. Louis :

As I understand this subject, we are going to do the work before us with the instrumentality we have got.

What we want to do is to come to the Christian merchants of our cities and make them feel it is their duty to try to lift these young men up to moral lives. Ask them what is it worth to you to save these young men? How much are you willing to give to raise the standard of public opinion, so that your sons can be better men? We have got to come into competition with the saloon. We feel that in St. Louis most young men don't go into ruin through wickedness, but through folly. I tell you, you won't get the mass of them without these attractions. The devil will get them, unless God comes down by a miracle.

The time being limited, the discussion was closed, and the audience sang

"My faith looks up to Thee,"

after which the sixth topic—"Our religious work; how shall it be made more effective"—was opened by Moreau S. Crosby, of Grand Rapids, Mich. :

It was, Mr. President and Brethren of the Convention, with great hesitancy, and many doubts as to my fitness for the work, that I consented to prepare a paper upon this subject, so vital to our existence as Young Men's Christian Associations.

I must ask, then, your indulgence, and, perhaps, your forbearance, while I shall endeavor to express, so clearly as I can, my own views and convictions with reference thereto.

I am satisfied that the question is a fundamental one, and upon a proper solution of it depends much of our success. Primarily, as given in the Paris declaration, our Associations were formed (and ever should be,) for the salvation of young men, and not merely for the purposes of a social or literary union—good as they may be in their proper place and sphere. It was the opinion of

the founders that, by the bonds of association, young men could be brought to Christ, and, with such views, they began the good work. That departures should be made from the original design is not strange; but, there has been, on the part of some of our Associations, a disposition to throw the door open too widely. This course is a dangerous one, and should be shunned. It is likely to admit to membership and authority those who would be better pleased with its failure than with its success as a *Christian Association*.

I am glad that our Executive Committee have so clearly defined (in a circular published in 1870, on the Test of Active Membership,) what they understand to be the aims and objects of these Associations.

They say: "We have ever claimed to be engaged in a strictly religious work."

Against the so called liberal spirit I shall take most decided ground, and shall call to my aid, in the maintenance of my position, the numerous Evangelical decisions of our International Conventions. With Jesus Christ as the chief corner stone our foundation is safe; no other is suitable upon which to build the superstructure of a Christian life.

"On Christ, the solid rock, we stand,
All other ground is sinking sand."

I am aware that we need practical results in times like these; for mere opinions and theories afford but little satisfaction, and give no assurance for the future. Mere experiments are well enough as tests, when no particular danger would result from failure; but in religious matters we need at all times to keep within hailing distance of the shore, and our eyes fixed upon the Master. "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved."

There are many false lights on the life-coast, which may do well enough in a calm sea, but when the storms come and they are needed most, either prove treacherous or go out in darkness. The steady light is what we want, sending forth its rays to guide and comfort, both in the calm and in the storm. I was much interested when at Portland in watching the preparing of the lighthouse ready for the night (at the entrance to the harbor,) and to observe how carefully it was provided for its use. So to us has been given the light from on high; for us has been prepared a lamp to guide in every vicissitude in life. Such a light beams upon us from the cross on Calvary, bringing with it hope and joy.

"In the cross of Christ I glory,
Towering o'er the wrecks of time;
All the light of sacred story,
Gathers round its head sublime."

In the further consideration of this subject, I shall ask your attention—

First—As to what we are now doing in religious work; and,

Second—How can we add to its efficiency?

Just here I find it difficult to separate or classify the kinds of labor which Associations throughout the country have taken upon themselves, (from the varied wants of different communities,) and to say just which may be regarded as strictly religious. I am the more in doubt because possessed of the opinion that Christian work is often too closely confined to beaten tracks and well worn theories. "Blessed are ye that sow beside all waters"

Numerous plans have been devised to further the work by those competent to do it, upon the conviction that the principal object of the Association was the development of the Christian character of its members, and the leading of young men to Christ—to reach the converted as well as unconverted.

In looking over the Eighteenth Annual Report of the New-York Association I observed that during the past year there have been distributed in that city, under their auspices, 25,000 tracts and over 116,000 cards and circulars. Who can measure the amount of good those have already done, and will continue to accomplish? But this is but one of the many means employed by that and kindred Associations to reach the unconverted. We appeal for an answer to the hundreds of young men saved from ruin through the direct efforts of these organizations. A good word, a kind invitation to attractive reading rooms, and a warm-hearted reception when there, have turned many from the gilded saloons and haunts of vice.

One great object of our Association work has been the union of various denominations on one platform, and the forgetting, for a season at least, of all Church differences in love for a Common Master. The best commentary on this, sir, is the large attendance here in Convention of brethren, not only representing many localities, but also many branches of the Christian Church. They have come to the capital of the nation, to consult with reference to questions of grave importance to this whole country of ours. Important as may be the many questions of State, intricate as may be our relations with Foreign Powers, no more serious business can be transacted, either in the Executive or Legislative branches of this Government, than that which has brought us together; for the young men are the hope not only of the Church, but also of the nation.

In this work we know no North, no South, no East, no West.

"One in hoping, one in loving,
One in faith, and one in prayer;
By united labors proving
Tolls and burdens too we share."

Beside tract work, the providing of reading rooms, and the sustaining of a daily or weekly prayer meeting, many have found it profitable to engage in Mission School work. Some have had rich experiences in laboring among prisoners at the jails, on Sabbath afternoons or at other times; while many, as lay preachers, can tell us of scores of conversions, as the result of their efforts. All of these and many more plans have been successfully carried on, and perhaps we can do no more than to increase their efficiency. Yet we have found in the progress of our work thus far new spheres of usefulness opening to us that we could not well anticipate; and, besides, what may be necessary in one reaction will not answer in another.

But our topic has a broader view—a prospective side—a future significance, which we shall discuss at more length, for this I consider mainly to be my province in this article. I believe in an ordained ministry for our Churches, that the Word may be properly presented and the hearers be instructed in things pertaining to their present and eternal welfare; and I as firmly believe in wise lay effort, whether it shall be in publicly telling the story of the Cross or in a more quiet Christian life.

The good already done on the docks and in the streets of our commercial and inland cities cannot be properly estimated: "For what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" Under the canopy of heaven many a one has learned of Him who was a sympathizing friend of the poor and wandering ones of earth. Out in the street, unfettered by prejudice and untrammelled by Church, there has been a communion and walk with God, closer than is found within the walls of many of our houses dedicated to the worship of Jehovah. Let us have more of this lay preaching, and we shall not only reach many who

will not go into our churches, but also develop a latent power among our young men, which may prove of great service in the advancement of God's glory and the establishment of His kingdom upon the earth. In some localities serious doubts have arisen as to the formation of Christian Associations, usually based, however, on the false idea that there is a conflict between the Associations and Churches in their proposed work. This in some cases has been advocated by clergymen, generally I believe from failure to properly appreciate or to fully understand our aims : sometimes from other motives less excusable.

I look upon the Associations as a *necessity*, and *auxiliary* to the Church, but always *secondary*—simply and solely doing the work which the latter does not do, and which should be in perfect harmony the one with the other. In the development of Christianity, as in the progress of science and art, we must expect the salutation of the Latin poet : *Qui bono ?* to meet on the threshold every advance made or change suggested. So in our special work, and as we meet in Convention, many over the country are asking what good ? Can not the Churches do this work ? Shall we multiply agencies when we have persons divinely commissioned to preach the unsearchable riches of Christ ? This criticism and opposition we must expect to encounter while we may propose and plan for the carrying on of Association work. It has been the natural accompaniment of every proposed reform in all ages, and surely we could not expect to escape in this enlightened century ! What good ? By its test we must stand or fall, and therefore the greater need that we make as few mistakes as possible. Our advance guard should be men, good and true.

"Duty be thy polar guide ;
Do the right whate'er betide."

We are not antagonistic to the Churches, but rather parts of them, and in hearty co-operation in word and deed. Attempting no organized opposition, we seek rather to raise the standard of piety up to a higher and broader plain of usefulness. If Churches shall be established as the result of our labors, the Lord be praised ; but if no more shall be done than to *awaken* Churches already formed to a more zealous prosecution of their legitimate work, much will have been accomplished.

The sphere of our daily life affords labor of a religious character, and by it we touch the world, and exert our widest influence. In our churches most of the work is done on Sundays, and on Monday morning we are too apt to throw off our religion, and to be fully absorbed by worldly cares and pleasures until Sabbath morning dawns again ; and even then it is difficult to lay aside the thoughts that have engrossed our attention during the week.

As a people we are too busy and give too little attention to recreation and subjects outside of our regular routine of business ; therefore another demand for Y. M. C. Associations—that men may be drawn from their offices and counting rooms, and become enlisted in something which will not only benefit the body, but also the soul.

In our churches some labor more to convert Christian men to their own sectarian views than sinners to Christ. "Do the right thing at the right time." "Prove all things ; hold fast that which is good." Andrew Fuller says, "Sin is to be overcome, not so much by maintaining direct opposition to it, as by cultivating opposite principles. To put out fire apply an opposite element—water, not one's hands. To kill weeds in the garden, plant it with good seed." So we should strive, with all brotherly love and forbearance, to remember that

for each one there is a responsibility to work in the Master's vineyard—and, to-day, not next Sunday.

Under the parable of the talents, we are given something to do—and “let us not be weary in well doing.” There is a latent power in the churches which needs the peculiarity of our organization to develop. Live Associations react upon the churches and mutual good follows.

As a brother said at the Wisconsin Convention, “The Church represents rather the different regiments, and the Young Men's Christian Associations the consolidated army. We should use every kind of arm of the service that will help in Christian warfare—the war of the cannon and the rattle of the musketry are all but parts of the whole system.”

Our religious work—how vast in its aims, yet how simple the plan of salvation! In the great fire in New York (in 1835) there was an abundant supply of water, for the Atlantic Ocean was near, but the water froze in the conductors, so that the firemen could not work the engines; thus, in Christian experience there is grace and love sufficient—an ample provision—but our hearts become chilled, and we (the conductors) do not do the work.

“Speak truly, and thy word
Shall be a faithful seed;
Live truly, and thy life shall be
A great and noble creed.”

“Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature” is a commission given to all disciples—laymen as well as the clergy. Give time as well as money. Distribute the gospel, for how shall we reach the masses without? We can do it by human charities—a loaf of bread is of more value to a hungry man than a bundle of tracts. If we take a tract in one hand, let us be sure to have bread in the other (or something to buy it with), for we may need the latter first, that the former may be fully appreciated. The heart and head are often reached through the stomach. Therefore we find very often, in towns where no other benevolent organizations exist, an important field of labor in caring for the bodily as well as spiritual wants of the community. By a judicious, well-organized relief department, the Christian Associations have often obtained their best recommendation to further favor and consideration. It is well to secure confidence when no sacrifice of principle is made, for it is a great help to know that you have the sympathy of your friends. Who is my neighbor? is one of the most practical questions of the day and age. Want, and not proximity of dwelling, constitutes neighborhood. “Behold how these Christians love one another!” “This commandment have we from Him, that he who loveth God love his brother also.” I have the utmost faith in the success of the Young Men's Christian Associations, provided they shall cling close to the Rock—away from it there is no safety. In another course there may be for the time greater popularity and the greater freedom and brilliancy; but it will soon end in complete obliteration of the real Christian element. It won't do to trust entirely in anything else to guide but the compass given us by the Lord himself.

We cannot well be too orthodox. Better err in this, however, than to make fatal mistakes. “Strive to enter in at the straight gate,” &c.

A consistent course often commands more respect than its opposite, even from the more liberal in views. There is danger in these days of losing our landmarks, and some of our Christian light houses (so called) send out a very dim light. As many crimes are committed in the name of liberty, so many evils are practiced in the name of Christianity. One of the dangerous asser-

tions of the day is, that it does not make much difference *what* one believes, *provided* he is sincere.

Many regard it manly, dignified, to doubt—to be sceptical, and able to argue as to the existence of a God when every blade of grass proves it, and the light and heat of every day furnish fresh evidence of his goodness.

To combat false theories, and worse practices, and to meet the many statements advanced, the Christian life needs abounding grace, and a continual bur- nishing of the armor of truth. To watch and fight and pray is ours to do.

" Along its front no sabres shine,
No blood red pennons wave,
Its banner bears the single line,
' Our duty is to save.' "

If we are to continue Christian and are parts of the churches, we must be con- sistent. Cards and billiards have no place in our rooms; if the above pre- mises are correct, we can come to no other conclusion. The leading organ of Unitarianism in the United States (*Christian Inquirer*) says: "The future of liberal Christianity depends upon whether it can *pray*. If it is not a piety as well as a philosophy, it will perish."

Prayer, brethren, is what we need; such nearness to our Heavenly Father as can be reached only by the effectual, earnest prayer.

" Prayer is the Christian's vital breath—
The Christian's native air,
His watchword at the gates of death,
He enters Heaven with prayer. "

Personal consecration we must have, and not merely a sympathy. Many wait for more favorable opportunities—God's opportunity is the present, freighted as it is with untold interest. Others engage in Christian work for dress parade, or short-term service, and not for the campaign. With conse- cration, we should have earnestness, and steadfastness. There are many who will work well for a time, so long as it is popular to do so, and others are zeal- ous, but amid discouragements and criticism they often become cold and in- different.

It is said that Queen Victoria visits Prince Albert's tomb at Windsor every day, places a basket of fresh flowers near it, reads a chapter in the Bible, and offers a prayer. Shall we not learn a lesson from the faithfulness of such a loving wife and Christian queen, to do our duty more regularly, never forget- ing what we have received from Him that sticketh closer than a brother, the Redeemer of mankind?

We should possess more living, every day faith—a *confidence* that what God has promised He will fulfill—*entire reliance* in the teachings of our *magna charta*, the blessed Bible, and Jesus Christ, the hope of the world.

Not only *be good* but *do good*, and not spend too much time in discussion; for some more humble one may do the work while others are talking about it. We have too much theory and too little practice in our Christian life and often forget the practical lessons which the world teaches us.

Every effect must have an adequate cause, and thus personal revival is often promoted by doing good.

We can get along without our Young Men's Christian Associations, but do we want to? So we might do without railroads and telegraphs, but the pre- sent generation would hardly exchange them for the stage coaches and slow mails of their grandfathers. There are more temptations now than there were fifty years ago; 60,000 young men go down to drunkard's graves annually, and 30,000 saloons are continuing the work. There are 7,000,000 of young

men in the United States, and only 350,000, or one-twentieth of them are professing the religion of Jesus Christ. The great majority of these young men must be met and rescued mainly by their fellow young men.

During the war we were deeply interested in our young men, and prayed for their safety, as they marched away to fight our battles; but now we seem to be asleep. Many were preserved from the bullet and hospital to speedily fill unhonored graves nearer home. Thousands could march to the cannon's mouth and encounter the leaden hail, who cannot pass the open door of the saloon without turning in, or say "No," to an invitation to drink.

We live preëminently in a fast age, and it requires considerable courage to repel the temptations of the day, and not only courage, but faith and knowledge are necessary.

This is a time of great undertakings in the material world, and since the completion of the Atlantic Cable, and Pacific Railroad, we are prepared for almost anything. Our national securities are backed up by large landed interests, and the wealth of the nation is pledged to their payment, but our Heavenly securities are endorsed by the Lord himself, whose promises cannot fail; if either, which shall we accept? Which will be most likely to pass current at the Treasury of Heaven?

We know that there have been great advances in the material world, for we are enjoying the blessings and privileges which they brought to us; but do we realize as fully the additional opportunities offered us for Christian labor, and therefore the greater need from the greater want? Since our last convention, Rome herself has opened her gates to us. God in His providence is opening the way in the Old World for the freedom of the New. The Bible is being unchained, and men are worshipping the only true and living God. With religious liberty at the heart, we have good reason to expect healthy action throughout the whole system.

Exactly what shall be our providential mission, if we have not already attained it, I opine no one can now say; but that there are many ways opening to us, all must confess.

But we need not to look beyond our own shores—the home field.

Thousands are coming to us, and most of them are young, eager to accept our proffered assistance, and while we may provide for their bodies in homesteads and employment, shall we neglect their souls? Look at the statistics furnished by Commissioners of Emigration at Castle Garden alone, and we can begin to understand something of the foreign element sent to us annually. In 1869, through that agency, there were landed at New-York nearly 260,000 souls. Some come with their religious convictions made up, and will aid us, but the most sadly need our outstretched hand of Christian brotherhood.

There is a process of higher education going on under our auspices and by means of our reading-rooms and religious literature; that of itself is worthy of commendation. We are learning from such cases as that of Ruloff, that we must educate the heart as well as the head, or our knowledge may only increase our sin. Desirable, however, as intellectual improvement may be, the spiritual advancement is of more consequence. The two can be built up together, and then we have the symmetry of a beautiful life. In many of our Colleges and Universities Christian Associations have been formed, and it seems eminently fitting that young men, and young ladies too, should be properly prepared for contact with the world by a study of the Word of God, and some knowledge as to its use and application. The nearer we can think and act

alike, the more fully shall we exemplify the old but true adage, "In union there is strength."

German unity was one marked feature of German success, as French division was of French defeat. The American is inorganic, individual, independent, and needs to learn a lesson from the military success of the nation now so important in European politics.

Now if our strength can be united and directed in the grandest of efforts—the acme of life, the salvation of the perishing around us—what can we not do, or who shall be able to stand against us? Do not misunderstand me, by supposing that I would place any instrumentality before the Church ordained of God, but rather as desiring the results indicated that the Church may be more victorious, and the sooner see the reward of her labors.

When the churches of the land shall be able to do the work of the Christian Associations, the latter should cease as separate organizations, having accomplished their mission; but from our present standpoint, the work of the Church and all its aids constantly increasing, is there any good reason to expect it?

On the other hand, shall we not welcome every such agency, as eagerly as fresh regiments are received when an army are in need of assistance to save from defeat or to make the victory more complete?

" My rule, be on thy guard,
Ten thousand foes arise,
The hosts of sin are pressing hard
To draw thee from the skies."

The reefs of sin are all around us. Intemperance and vice in every form meet us continually; the high and the low places furnish the varied attractions of the devil, and some of our noblest and best fall victims. Many of our Associations fail to do their *distinctive* work—to reach young men by proper influences. We should make religion cheerful, for many are restrained from a public profession of it by the fear of a loss of enjoyment and the successful manner by which some of our cold-hearted Christians create this false impression. Who should be happier than the Christian? It is our province to adopt whatever methods we legitimately can to attract younger men to our Associations, their rooms and benefits. In this way we shall make our religious work more effective. By lectures, concerts, bible classes, temperance bands, cottage, daily and weekly prayer meetings, public reading-rooms, &c., we can carry out the intellectual, social and spiritual improvement of all classes and sexes. It is important, then, for a substantial success of Associations, that there should be thorough, evangelical, religious work, marked by a careful study of the Bible; by wise lay effort, and well ordered and spiritual prayer-meetings.

To secure these results, I think we need not only more consecration and earnestness in the work, but also more information concerning it. The query then arises, how shall this be obtained?

There are, of course, various ways: one is by general conventions (both International and State) where practical questions may be discussed and new ideas be carried back to local Associations. "In the multitude of counsellors there is safety." Another way is by a proper canvass of territory, and this I believe can be done with great profit. With such a policy carried out either by general or State Committees, I am satisfied we should have a larger attendance at our State Conventions, and more interesting and profitable sessions. In Ohio, a canvass has already been made of a large portion of the State, and the reports from there are very cheering. There ought to be a rousing up and an educating of the people on the subject of Christian Associations. Old As.

sociations need reviving, and new ones should be organized. But there is still another way, and that is by the silent power of the press. We should regard ourselves far behind in general and special information could we not have our daily and weekly papers—both religious and secular. How, then, can we well do without the regular publication of the Executive Committee—THE MONTHLY—our own paper. It seems to me quite necessary that we should sustain it, and by increased patronage enable the Committee to make it a still better medium of intelligence. I bespeak for it a most cordial support, as one of the best agencies for creating additional efficiency in our general work. Besides this publication, much can be done through occasional tracts, and a proper distribution of cards and circulars. If a business man desires to inform the community about his goods, he advertises; so must we act on business principles, catch a little worldly wisdom, and sow broadcast the seeds of Eternal Truth.

“Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might.”

“Soldiers of Christ, arise
And put your armor on,
Strong in the strength which God supplies,
Thro’ his Eternal Son;
Strong in the Lord of Hosts,
And in His mighty power;
He who in his Redeemer trusts,
Is more than conqueror.

“Stand, then, in His great might,
With all His strength endued,
Take ye, to arm you for the fight,
The panoply of God
Then when your work is done
And all your conflicts past,
Ye shall o’ercome, thro’ Christ alone,
And stand entire at last.”

Mr. Fernier, Leeds, England, referred to his visit to America in company with another member, to see our religious life, and the pleasure and profit derived from his operations, and then proceeded to speak of the work in Leeds. He said:

We are doing, as a Young Men’s Christian Association, a great work in the way of temperance. Mr. Hyne Smith has a dear good wife who helps him. She recommended him to take a public house. We did so in the very heart of town, and had the sign painted over, calling it “THE BRITISH WORKMAN No. 1.” It was a public house without the drink. We have rooms in it where the men can come in and read the papers, get a cup of tea or something to eat at a cheap rate, have a game of draughts and chess, sit and have a little conversation, and where God’s service is held. No. 2 has started, and Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 in the town of Leeds. These are nearly all self-supporting. If any of you come to Leeds, call on Mr. Smith and learn about this work. I hope you will do likewise. Get hold of the liquor and beer saloons and turn them into places of this character.

J. O. Peck, Springfield, Mass. :

I have no sympathy with the movement which says that “we have got to bring cards and billiard tables into the Associations.” It is not necessary for us

in Springfield; it may be necessary in St. Louis. But I don't believe the day is ever to come when we have got to take those things into our rooms, and ask God's blessing upon them.

K. A. Burnell, Aurora, Ill.:

A few words from saloon men. I have talked with a great many saloon men in Chicago, and I have put this question of games to them. And these saloon men, drinking men, have advised me to put none of these things into Young Men's Christian Association Rooms. I have taken these men by the hand and visited these saloons at two o'clock in the morning and with the same heartiness and freedom have they listened to me. Many with tears in their eyes. It is a question of manliness, and carrying out this doctrine everywhere.

R. R. McBurney, New-York City:

How can we increase the efficiency of our religious work? Now, I take it, that this Convention was held in order to answer that very question. The first object of this Association is to lead young men to the Lord Jesus Christ, and then how are we to increase the efficiency of this work? I am not going to discuss the question. I only rise to get the minds of the speakers upon it. This amusement question was settled at Montreal, and this is the first time it has been introduced into our Convention since. The thing is today buried in our Associations. Let us now endeavor to ascertain if we can, by careful consideration and earnest thought, learn how we can increase the efficiency of our organization. We must increase our spirituality and pureness of life. I believe firmly, that as all our members cling closely to the Lord Jesus Christ, and are decidedly pronounced in relation to the Christian character of our work, just in the same proportion will our spiritual work be increased.

R. Weidensall, Omaha:

I have two thoughts to offer with regard to increasing the efficiency of our Associations. I believe in commencing at the fountain head. Go into the home organizations in the country, and prepare the young men, before being sent to the city, with Christian principles in their hearts. There should be an organization in every hamlet, so that when they come to the city they would know our Association, and where they could go. Another thing. When we go into our Young Men's Christian Associations in the city, let us go there with a heart full of the Lord Jesus Christ, because it is only this heart that can unlock a heart full of sin.

R. M. Moore, Elizabeth, N. J.:

I don't care what your attractions are, you cannot save souls unless a large portion of your members know Christ experimentally.

A few other delegates made brief remarks on the subject, when

Vice-President Barnard, Chairman of the Business Committee, presented the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That this Sixteenth Annual International Convention of United States and British Provinces cannot consent to close these most interesting sessions without extending grateful acknowledgment of our indebtedness to those who have contributed so largely to render our sessions so profitable and the

delegates so comfortable. To the Washington Association, for their generous and welcome reception and entertainment. To Mr. A. S. Pratt and family, for the admirable manner in which the delegates were fed at noon during the session of the Convention. To the citizens, for their kindness and ample hospitality. To the hotels, for their reduced prices. To the Pastors, Trustees and members of the Congregational, Protestant, Methodist and Calvary Baptist Churches, for having kindly placed their edifices at our disposal. To the Press of Washington, whose columns have been so largely devoted to the interests of the Convention. To the citizens generally, who have manifested their interest in the good work in which we are engaged, by their attendance upon our sessions not only, but by their many kind and encouraging words and acts to individual members. To one and all we are under lasting obligations; and may the blessing of God rest upon this city—the nation's capital—and upon all the Associations represented here, and upon all Christian organizations throughout the land.

H. J. Cowles, of Wisconsin, offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention are due and are hereby tendered, to the President of this Convention, for the able and impartial manner in which he has presided over the sessions of the Convention. Also, to all the officers associated with him, for the very satisfactory manner in which they have performed their duties.

The congregation sang,

“Wake, my soul.”

Prayer was offered by the President, and after the Benediction by the Rev. Dr. Reed, at 10½ P. M., the Convention adjourned.

FAREWELL SERVICE.

SUNDAY EVENING.

The farewell meeting of the Convention was held in the Congregational Church. At eight o'clock the church was crowded, while platform, aisles, and every available place for standing room were also packed by the delegates and their friends. The services were opened by singing,

“We praise Thee, O God.”

President Wanamaker referred to the number of persons who had asked for prayer in their behalf, at the many services of the day, manifesting the prevailing presence of the Holy Spirit, and called upon the Rev. O. S. Dane, of Michigan, to offer prayer.

The hymns,

"More love to thee, O Christ,"

and

"Rescue the perishing,"

were then sung.

The Rev. J. O. Peck, of Springfield, Mass., read a portion of Scripture, and offered prayer.

President Wanamaker said :

Dear brethren of the Convention : Our sessions are now drawing to a close. We can scarcely believe that the time has all gone, and yet we assemble to-night to speak the parting words. We have missed some brothers whom we have met at so many Conventions. But there has been One ever present—the Son of Man himself has been here. How often our hearts have felt Jesus of Nazareth passeth by. Let us hope to-night, as we say the sad words of parting, that Jesus will stand on the shore to welcome every one of us at the last parting from this world ; making us more sensible of His presence than even in the hours through which we have passed. After we shall sing another hymn the dear brethren that have been selected, whose names I will mention, representing the different parts of the land, will speak to us ; and let us pray for them that the words they shall speak to us may be God's messenger to us.

The hymn

"Stand up for Jesus"

was then sung, when

John I. Platt, of Poughkeepsie, addressed the meeting, as follows :

Mr. President and dear Friends—In opening the addresses of the evening, allow me to say a few words of practical business signification, leaving all the fine thoughts and eloquent expressions to those who can say them so much better than I can. I would like to leave a few sentences here for you to carry away with you to your homes. We have met together these four or five days to consult upon a very important work. Not to talk about our Christian experience, about what we have realized or done, nor even especially about our hopes, but about our work. Now we are going home. Dear brethren, let us go home to *work*. Remember that our work is not general Christian work, that it is not preaching the Gospel to the masses, not the diffusion of evangelical knowledge, but for Young Men's Christian Associations. Let us keep this continually before us, that our work is for young men. Let us do it without thinking that we thereby contract in any way the field of our labor. I think the most important work that any one can engage in is the salvation of young men. They are coming up from the families and from the Sabbath schools year after year, going forth with all the hopes and glorious aspirations of manhood. Just there, where society receives and attracts them, where commerce and other avocations stretch out their hands to them, just there we in the Associations must get hold of them ; just there where temptation comes so strong to them—and how many of them tremble and fall—just there, where the hopes and aspirations are the grandest and noblest, where the possibilities are so great ; we can hardly imagine how great they are. Let us shut our eyes to it if

we can, it is, notwithstanding, the fact that many of the ordinary appliances of the Church do not reach them ; just there it is true that there can be no influence brought to bear upon them so strong as the influence of other young men. It seems to me that the closing words I should say to this Convention is that our special work is by young men for young men. Let me entreat the brethren here to go home to engage in this work. Do it by some plan—a poor plan is better than no plan. Let us get together in a little room by ourselves and ask God to guide us before starting forward, and get our Associations to decide upon some plan of work. Dear brethren, we are about separating. Let the Convention leave its impress upon our souls and hearts, as we have come near to Christ and become stronger for the work God has given us to do.

A. H. Nelson, of New Orleans, followed :

Mr. President and my Brethren—The review has closed. The eye of the great Captain of our Salvation has rested upon us. Our weapons have been inspected. Now we return to the North, to the South, to the East and to the West, to meet the great adversary face to face. Before us lies one more year's work for Jesus. Are we ready for the task ? Are we better prepared than we were before we came up to this Convention ? If so, brethren, our coming together here has not been in vain. If we have learned to prize more highly the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, if we have learned to merge the individual in the Christian, and forget in this great sea of brotherhood all things that may separate us, our lesson has been well learned. I see before me the great work of the Master. We go back to our several places of labor better prepared for the duties that lie before us. As we pass along we may raise our poor brother from the gutter and elevate him to an intelligent and upright manhood. More than that, we may have learned how best to lead him to the foot of the cross. Upon the part of the delegates of the South, I bid you an affectionate farewell.

“Oh, could I speak the matchless worth”

was then sung, after which

H. A. Sherwin, Cleveland, Ohio, made a few remarks :

My dear brother Delegates and Christian Friends—Although I have been privileged to attend quite a number of these Conventions, yet I never have felt at the close of one of them that I have been blessed with so much of the fullness of the Spirit of God in my own heart as now, with such a feeling of God's blessing in my soul that I believe I will carry with me to my home and apply to my work.

By request, H. Thane Miller sang

“I love to tell the story.”

Matthew Hodder, of London, England, was the next speaker.

We have a great deal of machinery at work, but I say to my beloved friends that we shall not do a great deal in the world unless we attend to the power which works the machinery. It depends upon you and me personally as to the power we possess from God, as to whether our Association shall prosper henceforth. Jesus came into the world that we might have life and that life more abundantly.

Let the Lord Jesus Christ have the full possession of our souls. No will of our own whatever. May I do nothing until he tells me to do it. My dear friends, we go into all sorts of things ; sometimes push ourselves into them ;

God don't send us into them, and God don't help us. We must wait upon God every hour of the day in a relation of personal nearness to the Lord Jesus. We must wait for his word, for the still small voice to say it is the time. My dear brethren, when God leads us into this blessed possession, entire devotedness to Christ, I shall never fear but you shall go on prospering and to prosper.

E. G. Andrews, of Brooklyn :

To devise plans, to gird ourselves for new enterprises, all this is well, but the work lies yet before us. We have been as it were on the Mount of Communion, we would come down now to the plain that we might cope in the divine strength with all the sin which so curses this poor world of ours. There are two difficulties, it seems to me, likely to hinder the work which this Convention has met in order to forward. 1. The tendency all through society to rely upon organization rather than upon individual effort. We are in an age of Associations and organizations. We do not pretend to do anything in these days as individuals. Now, brethren, it seems to me the whole aim of such organizations is simply to inspire and direct individual effort, and nothing else. Until that point be clearly apprehended by us, these enterprises and all these clustering series of Associations will fail to accomplish the work they are to do. We ought to watch that point very carefully. 2. The tendency to under-rate our especial individual usefulness. Many a man thinks I can do nothing. He is like the man that had one talent, bringing the talent hid in a napkin and receiving the censure, "Thou wicked and slothful servant." My brethren, let me encourage you to do little things. It is the lifting up of one life by the efforts of an entire life-time that does God's work in the world. Who of us can tell what is the great work and what the small ?

The hymn

"Work, for the Night is Coming,"

was then sung.

L. Gaetz, of Pictou, Nova Scotia, spoke of the life of St. Paul as full of inspiration to us in our work, and bade the brethren farewell.

W. Howard Doane, of Cincinnati, by request, sang

"We Shall Know Each Other There."

D. W. Glass, of Baltimore, offered prayer.

O. S. Dane, Kalamazoo, Michigan, followed, briefly speaking of work, referring to the cordial harmony that had prevailed in the Convention through the abiding presence of the Master.

Vice-President Barnard said :

There is a single thought upon my mind which I can only express in the Apostle's words : "I beseech you, brethren, by the mercies of God that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto God which is your reasonable service." The injunction, dear brethren, has been left to you and to me. We are not to do for the Master that which is easy, that which costs us nothing, that requires no exertion ; but we are to work for Christ. We are the rank and file of the army of the Lord. Let us work for Christ. Let us in all things be practical, living examples of Christ.

R. R. McBurney, of New York, followed :

My mind was directed to-night, while Dr. Andrews was speaking, to personal work in connection with our Association. We can never dwell too frequently upon this theme. For just in proportion as we individually labor, will the work of Christ go forward in our Associations. Then I thought, oh! what dry work it is to labor in connection with Young Men's Christian Associations, unless we have a natural and positive individual connection with the Lord Jesus Christ; unless we are in full and frequent sympathy with Him, diligent and careful students of His Word. And there is nothing in all the world that will better fit us for the work to which we have pledged ourselves in this Association than this one thing. Just in proportion as we study it, will we drink in the spirit of the Master. And this spirit we need to enable us to accomplish anything for Him. Then, too, I think sometimes in our meetings perhaps there is a little harshness in our spirit, perhaps in speaking about converting men, and in speaking to unconverted men—a good deal of censure in our hearts and sharpness in our manner. It very much hinders the work. Oh, let us be careful as we go home to our Associations, to do this work in a spirit of the warmest, truest kindness of gentleness and of love.

We ought to be very patient with the young men who join our Associations; many of them are inexperienced, and when put on committees go to work in a bungling manner. Let us who have more experience be patient with them. Take them by the hand and tell them how to do the work. Watch and guide them and lead them into usefulness. In this way we will make all of our Associations thoroughly effective. Now, brethren, there are a good many of us here who are Directors in our Associations at home. Let us see to it during this year that we are present at every prayer-meeting held in our Associations as far as possible. Let us determine to devote some part of each day to the work of the Association. If there is an Association in your neighborhood not represented in the Convention, if they are cold, go to them and warm them up, and don't be satisfied by merely stirring up the meeting that receives the delegates on their return. Tell them what a good time we have had here, and how it has strengthened our hearts. Oh, that God would help the Associations of this land that so through the year multitudes of young men through our instrumentality might be brought this year into a saving acquaintance with the Lord Jesus. This is my earnest prayer.

Ira Sankey sang

"Scatter Seeds of Kindness."

General O. O. Howard was introduced :

His speech had been made by those who had preceded him. He could say Amen to their excellent and able portraiture of truth. Then, referring to the opposition to the Association work, he said it comes mainly from two sources—opposition of ridicule and scorn, which is always intensified when the Spirit of God is present. The more we find people writing infidel words and speaking harsh and unkind things in such a time as this, the more we may be sure that the Spirit of the living God is at work, and that Satan is more active than usual on account of it.

There is another class of opposition that comes from the churches and pastors. But they would find that the most active men in the Association were the most active in the churches. And, what is the Church of Christ? It is made up of the believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, both living and dead. It is

made up of those whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life, whether we know them or not.

The Young Men's Christian Association is a part and parcel of the Church of Christ. Some one said the other day that the Church is ordained of God, and the Young Men's Christian Association sprung from men. There is no such division. It cannot be made. To the returning delegates he said: "Go from this city with a different feeling from what you have ever had with reference to the place. Know that God is feared and loved here; that he has not left Himself without a witness; that in process of time we will banish the groggeries, the low holes of vice, and make this a centre of truth and holiness, as well as a centre of political power."

Of the Southern delegates, he said: "We love them because they belong to Christ; and in proportion as they belong to Christ they must go with us; say to them that we will always welcome them."

H. Thane Miller and W. Howard Doane sang the duet

"Where do you Journey, my Brother?"

President Wanamaker then delivered the closing address, referring with thanks to the harmony and Christian sympathy that has characterized all the sessions of the Convention. He desired to leave in Washington City, for the whole United States to gaze upon, no better commentary on the power and the beauty of their blessed religion than this. He had read the "Evidences of Christianity," but he would ask those out of Christ to take these as one of the best that the world has ever seen. They could not repay the great debt they owed to the brethren of Washington, but he trusted that they would be very near each other. He hoped they would go home to work for Christ, not for glory, but for the blessed name of Jesus; live not for self, but for others.

Let us now join in the closing prayer by Brother Miller, who will remember the requests for special prayers that have been handed in.

After the prayer, Wilkie sang

"Go Work in My Vineyard."

The Rev. Dr. Rankin, pastor of the Congregational Church, made a few remarks and pronounced the Benediction.

REPORT

OF THE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF THE

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS

OF THE

UNITED STATES AND BRITISH PROVINCES,

PRESENTED TO THE WASHINGTON CONVENTION, MAY 24, 1871

(WITH ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS.)



New-York:

PUBLISHED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

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REPORT

To the Sixteenth Annual Convention of the Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces :

At the four preceding Conventions the reports of the Executive Committee have set forth with considerable fullness the views of its members, (for they are, and ever have been, in entire accord upon all matters of moment) concerning the work, the progress, and the policy of the Associations and the Conventions. There has been no change in the position of our Societies during the current year which has not confirmed, in the judgment of the Committee, all the opinions and arguments formerly advanced in its reports. The Committee has no change to suggest; it will not repeat arguments or conclusions heretofore advanced. Nor, will the work of the year be reviewed in detail. Some more prominent matters only will be noticed.

I.—The condition of State work is not presented as fully in the reports of Corresponding Members as the Committee had expected. Reports have been received in time for the press from only seventeen States and Provinces, viz., Ontario, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New-York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, West Virginia, Kentucky, District of Columbia, Indiana, Minnesota—these are subjoined.

II.—Local Conventions have been held during the year in the Maritime Provinces, (Nova Scotia, &c.) Canada, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New-York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Iowa, sixteen in all, of which twelve were attended by some member of this Committee, three by prominent Association men in behalf of the Committee, and at one, Ohio, the Committee was in no way represented. The member of the Committee who attended the Convention at

Charlottetown visited as many of the Associations at the far East as possible during his trip. The member of the Committee who attended the Wisconsin Convention visited a large number of Associations in the course of his journey, making Cincinnati, Chicago, St. Paul, Janesville, and St. Louis the initial points. M. S. Crosby, of Grand Rapids, represented the Committee at the Iowa Convention, Dr. Verranus Morse at Michigan, R. C. Morse at New Hampshire; he also attended, with members of the Committee, six other Conventions. Robert Weidensall represented the Committee at the Indiana Convention, and he attended two other Conventions with members of the Committee. These Conventions are not conducted in all sections upon the same general plan, and in view of the importance of these gatherings as a part of our work, it is recommended that the Convention set apart some portion of its sessions for the consideration of this topic: State Conventions, their importance, and the best mode of conducting them.

III.—Concerning the “MONTHLY” a detailed statement was presented at the last Annual Convention. Little more than an abstract of the same is deemed necessary now. In view of the rapid multiplication of our Associations, and the wide extent of territory occupied by them, the “MONTHLY” which was called into existence at Portland, and fully endorsed at Indianapolis, seems to be indispensable. Without it we should have no adequate medium of communication, and the knowledge of each Association would be limited, in a great measure, to its own experience, while with it the experience of each is made available to all; and thus the failure of one becomes a warning, and the successes of another an incentive to a thousand others. It is needed also to harmonize effort, and maintain unity of purpose and action, if we desire to consolidate our Associations into a bulwark of Christian strength, or marshal them into an army of Christian progress, and it is needed to make known our work and purposes to Pastors and others whose intelligent co-operation is essential.

But to make it of use as a medium of communication, an educator of the membership, and an exponent of our work, it must

be both published and circulated. To secure these results one of three things must be done. Its subscription list must be increased by the immediate efforts of Associations among their own members and others; or a publication fund must be raised to sustain it while it works its way more slowly; or Associations must subscribe for it and distribute it according to their own discretion. The first method is believed to be preferable; it would not only put the "MONTHLY" into the hands of the membership at once, but it would secure the funds needed for its publication, by the simple payment of individual subscriptions, from year to year, without further appeal to the Associations; and in addition to this, it would produce an income sufficient to carry on the general work devised by the Convention. But the "MONTHLY" is devoted exclusively to a single purpose and cannot, like popular magazines, appeal to all classes for support; its circulation is limited to our Associations, and virtually to those members only who are or can be interested in Association work. This may make a fund necessary for a time.

The issue has been six thousand copies monthly for the current year. If there is an increase in the subscriptions, for the remainder of the year, such as may rightfully be expected, we shall be able to close the second year of the paper free from debt in its behalf. But the Committee indulges the hope that the action of this Convention will place this matter beyond any doubt, by enabling it to continue the publication upon a basis which will secure a large increase in the subscription list. The cost of publication is little less than nine hundred dollars per month; this must be met with regularity.

IV.—The Western Agent, Mr. Weidensall, has prosecuted his work with great thoroughness in Wisconsin, Michigan and Indiana, in co-operation with the Corresponding Members of the Committee resident in those States. His routes were planned by them, they opened correspondence with persons in the principal cities in regard to his mission, and rendered all the assistance in their power. The results are partially testified in his report which is subjoined; the correspondence of the Committee shows, however, that much more might properly have been said. From all

sections of these States there has come up a uniform testimony to great benefits and the encouragements derived from his visits.

Mr. Weidensall also visited Minnesota and Iowa, but arrangements not having been made for him, he could accomplish but little. He accordingly passed hastily over these States after completing his work in Wisconsin, and then proceeded to Michigan, from thence to Indiana, where he has labored until the 20th inst.

During the year he has travelled five thousand, five hundred miles, assisted in organizing sixteen Associations, seven in institutions of learning.

The Committee is satisfied that the Convention should in some way provide for a thorough system of visitation. The money should be at hand to sustain at least another agent. Mr. Weidensall is now urgently called for in at least three of the Northern States, while those most interested in the rising Associations at the South insist that he is peculiarly fitted for that work, and that his Winter should be employed in aiding the brethren there. But three local Conventions have as yet attempted to carry out the work of visitation within their own jurisdiction; under none has the work been thoroughly done. As to all the rest the call is urgent upon this Convention to provide for it.

V.—Arrangements were made with H. Thane Miller and John H. Cheever, of Cincinnati, to make a tour of the South in behalf of the Associations. Mr. Miller's health failed, and the plan was abandoned. Later in the season a member of the Committee was enabled to spend some five weeks in the principal cities and towns in efforts to increase the interest in Association work. This, however, involved the Committee in no expense whatever.

VI.—The Life Membership Certificate, ordered at the last Convention, has been completed. One thousand copies were printed. The lowest prices at which they can be sold, and save the Convention, is thirty-five cents each and postage. 236 have already been disposed of. The Committee has heard no complaints, and it is believed the certificate is everywhere received with favor.

VII.—The Manual of Associations has not been completed. The Committee has not received such a general expression of

views upon some of the matters, felt to be important to be included in it, as to render it wise to issue it during the past year. It is partly completed, and the Committee hopes to make such arrangements during this Convention as to insure the publication of this much needed pamphlet before the close of the Summer.

VIII.—It is not thought desirable to present any other than the following brief summary of some of the items in the reports of the Associations. They will be exhibited at large in the tabulated statement appended to the report.

1. There are now seven hundred and seventy-four Associations on the roll. Eighty-one have been organized during the present year. One hundred and nine have been stricken from the list, as disbanded.

2. There are now twenty-one Association buildings on the Continent. Seven have been added to the list this year. Twenty-one have building funds, twenty-three more than last year. Buildings and building funds now amount to \$1,846,501.

3. Three hundred and eleven Associations report to this Convention, with an average membership of one hundred and ninety, against one and fifty-six hundred of last year.

There has been no great addition to the number of Associations the past year. The present enumeration is believed to be accurate. In everything that goes to make a real advance there is much to encourage. In the two Provinces and five States, where there has been a fair attempt at general work, progress has been most satisfactory. The working Associations have increased in strength and aggressive power. The additions to their working force have been considerable, and there has been quiet, but most earnest and profitable, religious interest. There have been many conversions. The abandonment of Associations, reported as active one year ago, has been almost wholly among those which hardly contemplated the prosecution of a strict Association work, as defined in our Constitutions. Many of them had a limited field of service, and no efforts were made by neighboring Associations to encourage or teach those seeking to engage in the work. Your Committee could not reach them.

and hence discouragement, and shortly surrender. The Association cause was never so strong on this Continent as it is to-day. It never commanded so much money; never had so strong a hold as now upon public sympathy; never have Association men seen so clearly as now, that it is their overshadowing duty in these Societies, to labor primarily, chiefly, always for the salvation of young men; and never has the Great Head of the Church more richly blessed their efforts than in the year now closed.

IX. The following is a summary of the Report of the Treasurer :

The Committee had on hand at the last report.	\$3,365 94
Subscriptions received at Indianapolis and paid.....	1,966 32
Sale of Annual Report	308 32
From sale of Life Membership Certificate	78 93
Sundries.....	216 73
	<hr/>
	\$5,936 27

EXPENDED.

Salary of Mr. Weidensall.	\$875 00
Travelling Expenses....	183 85
Expenses of the MONTHLY.	1,250 00
Travelling Expenses of persons attending Conventions at invitation of the Committee.....	854 91
Publishing Annual Report, &c.....	648 93
Life Membership Stone.....	510 70
Printing, Postage, and Stationery.	679 97
H. C. Riley, Work in Mexico, as per Subscription.....	50 00
John Vassar, do.	50 00
Miscellaneous Expenses....	166 43
Balance in hands of Committee, from which is to be deducted the expenses of the Convention.....	1,166 43
Now due from Subscriptions.....	2,842 75
Detailed statements, with vouchers, form a part of this Report.	

X.--In obedience to the commands of the Indianapolis Convention, the Committee has selected the following topics, and has invited the gentlemen named in connection with each to address the Convention upon the subject involved :

1. *God's Word—How shall it be studied, and how shall the study of it be promoted in our Association?* Rev. H. M. Parsons, Boston.

2. *Modern Scepticism in its relations to young men—How shall it be met by our Association?* Rev. Mark Hopkins, D.D., L.L.D., Williams' College.

3. *Secular Instruction—What place should it have in the work of our Association?* T. James Claxton, Montreal.

4. *Young Men in Business—What are their temptations, and how shall they be resisted?* Rev. Jno. M. Reid, D.D., Chicago.

5. *Money for the support of our Associations—How shall it be raised?* John Wanamaker, Philadelphia.

6. *Our Religious Work—How shall it be made more effective?* Moreau S. Crosby, Grand Rapids, Mich.

The Committee suggest that each address be followed by an informal conference upon the topic in accordance with the practice in the past.

XI.—The Committee asks the action of the Convention in regard to the following matters:

1. The designation of the second Sabbath in November next as a day of prayer for God's blessing upon the work of the Young Men's Christian Associations throughout the world.

2. That authority be conferred upon it to designate delegates to the contemplated Conference of the Associations to be held in London this year, from among persons known as active Association workers, as provided by the resolution adopted at the last Convention.

3. That means be provided for sustaining Mr. Weidensall and one other agent, and that the Committee be authorized to assign fields of service to each.

4. That definite plans be perfected for the maintenance of the MONTHLY, such as shall commend themselves to all the Associations and furnish a guaranty to the Committee that, in this most laborious but most necessary part of its labors, it will be really sustained.

5. That the ratio of representation in future Conventions be fixed at two Delegates for all Associations having less than one hundred members, and that for every additional hundred or fraction thereof exceeding fifty, one Delegate be allowed; but no Association to be allowed more than fifteen delegates.

6. The Committee is not prepared to recommend any substitute for the present Annual Conventions. But this Convention is asked to discuss this matter, and take some action thereon.

Respectfully submitted,

CEPHAS BRAINERD, *Chairman.*

NEW-YORK, 24 May, '71.

REPORTS OF CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island some time ago united in convention under the name of the "Convention of Y. M. C. Associations for the Maritime Provinces of British America," and have held four annual Conventions, the last of which met in September, 1870, at Charlottetown, P. E. Island. Nova Scotia sent the largest delegation, about one hundred and twenty in number. The other provinces sent their quota, and the meetings were exceedingly interesting, the churches where the Convention was held being crowded. Mission work was enthusiastically undertaken in the open air, from house to house, in the jail and in the asylum.

The Association and the Churches in Charlottetown were revived. The young men, at a special meeting, held on the eve of the departure of the delegates, in goodly number came forward and united with the Association, and resolved to work for Christ. They have faithfully carried out their resolution. Crowded prayer and other meetings have been held in Charlottetown ever since. A lot of ground has been purchased, and arrangements are in progress for a building.

Sixteen will be added to the list of Associations in Nova Scotia and Cape Breton "not mentioned in the report of the Indianapolis Convention." Like other districts, we have some Associations which have only the name; but the organization is there, and, when prompted to move, some of the leading men make an effort and move the others; and hence, when called on in any emergency, even the weakest among them are found "moving into line."

Of the larger Associations, those in Pictou, New Glasgow, Truro and some other places have made good progress, and manifest a lively interest in the work. In Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, active preparations are now made by seven Associations to build edifices of their own. In Halifax, much has been accomplished by our members. The new Mission Church in Barrack Street is crowded every Sunday afternoon by attendance upon a Union Prayer Meeting. Besides doing other good work in the city, delegations of our members, including leading Christian men, have visited Associations east and west, and have stimulated Christian activity wherever they have gone.

JAMES FARQUHAR,

Cor. Mem. for Nova Scotia.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Last year I reported eleven Associations in New Brunswick, viz.: St. John, Bathurst, Chatham, Richibucto, Newcastle, Carleton, Moncton, Petitcodiac, Upper Norton, Central Norton and St. Andrews. Since then an Association has been started, with promise of a successful career, at Frederickton, the capital town of the Province, and the second in point of size. The Lieutenant-Governor, and several influential men are among its office bearers, and, although there

are obstacles of prejudice, etc., there is a fine field for the work, and much ought to be expected from the new Association. Efforts have been made in some other places, but with results not yet worthy of record.

The Association at St. John, now in its fourth year, has a membership of 610, being an increase of 70. The most of its departments are well sustained and flourishing. The average daily attendance at the reading-room is 40. The attendance at the literary meetings has slightly fallen off, while that of the religious meetings has increased. The Sabbath afternoon Bible Class, the meeting for Essays and Readings, and the two Prayer Meetings have been held regularly every week. The Sabbath evening Prayer Meeting is crowded at every session. Tract distribution, visitation and cottage meetings are also sustained by the members. The Relief Committee has labored hard and distributed a large sum of money in relieving the wants of the poor, especially in the district lately infected with small pox. The self-sacrificing deeds of some members will not soon be forgotten.

Of the other Associations in the Province, one or two are almost lifeless, but I do not wish as yet to remove their names from the list. Most of the country Associations sustain their Weekly Prayer Meetings, and in one place the only regular service is the one held by the Association.

At Upper and Central Norton, at Chatham and St. Andrews, lectures have been delivered under the auspices of these societies.

The Convention of the Associations of the Maritime Provinces will this year be held in St. John early in July. We expect from the divine blessing on this Convention, a fresh impetus to the work, especially in the country districts. May our expectations be gloriously realized.

JOSHUA CLAWSON,

Cor. Mem. for New Brunswick.

ONTARIO.

The Association work of the past year has not been so satisfactory as in some previous years. Several of our large towns and two of our cities are now without a Y. M. C. A. This is deeply to be regretted. Several reasons for it might be named : 1st. They do not see or hear enough of the great work doing in and by such societies in other places. Not sending delegates either to the International or Provincial Conventions, they are cut off from the great body of fellow members. 2d. They do not subscribe for the ASSOCIATION MONTHLY, the London Y. M. C. A., or Quarterly Messenger, and therefore are not posted up on Association work, its progressive character, its wonderful power for good, and its blessed results. 3d. Another reason is, want of fraternal visitation. In a small town, where the membership is limited and its resources restricted, the burden of carrying on the work devolves upon a very few, who need the occasional assistance or suggestion of some member or a delegation from a sister Association, or the wise counsel of some skilled Association worker, and want regular systematic reports from and visitation of our smaller Associations. We require to keep alive the bond of brotherly communion with them. I rejoice that Hamilton, St. Catharine's, Toronto, and several other places, have, during the past year, carried forward the work vigorously, and earnestly hope and pray

that some system may soon be devised for reaching and assisting those who are laboring amid difficulty and discouragement in the smaller towns of our province.

WILLIAM ANDERSON,

Cor. Mem. for Ontario.

MAINE.

The status of the various Associations in our State remains much the same as a year ago. Previous to our State Convention, in October last, I wrote to some member of every Association of which I had any record of its ever having existed, asking as to their present condition, &c.; but the replies were so unsatisfactory that, at the Convention soon after, I made another effort to find out whether the list, as published by your Committee last year, was correct, and, so far as I could learn, it was as near so as could be. Some Associations have chosen officers, but do no work, simply having a name, hoping, as they say, for better days. In some places a lack of unity among denominations has caused a temporary suspension; but in many of our cities and towns there is a band of young men associated together for Christian work, the elements of whose success the past year can be, in a large measure, attributed to the out-door and neighborhood prayer meetings. In some places these have been followed by a glorious work of grace. A large number of children also have been instructed in the truths of God's word in the many Sunday Schools under their care. I know of but two new Associations formed the past year—one at Elliott, and one at the Asylum for Disabled Soldiers at Augusta.

HENRY H. BURGESS,

Cor. Mem. for Maine.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

In Portsmouth, since the organization of the four Y. M. C. A. of the different churches of that city into one Union organization, they have prospered, and at the time of writing have 248 members, including 7 life members, who give \$10 each. Rooms on Congress Street.

The Y. M. C. A., organized at Center Harbor is progressing finely, with Mr. S. F. Emery as President, and E. E. Clark, Corresponding Secretary.

President Emery, of Canterbury, writes that he is glad to report his Association as active, and that most of the members are deeply engaged in the work. They have lately been cheered by witnessing quite a religious interest, the result of prayerful and protracted effort.

The Nashua Association have rooms in Fisher's Block, Main Street. From 30 to 40 members are engaged in holding cottage prayer meetings. A number of other meetings are also held during the week, and the result is, that more interest is manifested in the churches. We find that those who are indifferent to Christian work will help sustain a cottage meeting, and before they are aware of it are taking up their neglected duties in their own church.

E. O. BLUNT,

Cor. Mem. for New Hampshire.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Massachusetts has one more Association than a year ago. A favorable interest is manifested in our cause in this State. Many of these organizations have been the centres of revivals of religion, and some the scene of constant revival throughout the year. One Association districted their town, and went out two by two, visiting every family for conversation, scattering little books, inviting to church those who had absented themselves, and all to attend their prayer meetings. The pastor giving full sympathy, invited a revivalist to his pulpit, large numbers were converted, and the work spread to the neighboring towns. In one of these towns, a Christian Association was organized. This was all in a farming community, sparsely settled. Nine daily prayer meetings are held by the Associations of this State. In some of the smaller cities, they have been very successful. Personal effort at beginning and close of such meetings is indispensable to success. We hear of some excellent social gatherings, which have added new life. We need such influence to attract young men to us. Prayer and preaching alone won't do it. Professor Woods, of Andover, once said: "Bait your hook, have a good bait, let it down easy; don't throw it in, and say, Come on, now, bite, you dogs!" The Boston Association has provided one or more of the following attractions at each of its semi-monthly socials: A ventriloquist (piano and vocal music always), humorous songs, humorous readings, amusing puzzles, microscopes, galvanic batteries, scales for weighing, singing by children, a brass band, singing by quartettes. Over 400 are present, ladies included. Admission is by tickets, free to all respectable young men who call for them. The State Convention, consisting of 300 delegates from 60 Associations, was a grand success. One address was upon Bible study. Several times in my visits to towns in Massachusetts, young men have drawn a small Testament or Bible from their pockets, and said: "Here is one of the results of our glorious Convention. I never carried a Testament before, but I bought one on my way from that meeting, and have carried it ever since." County Conventions have been held quarterly in several districts. They help the Associations, and keep the public informed of our work.

L. P. ROWLAND.

Cor. Mem. for Massachusetts.

RHODE ISLAND.

The past year has been one of quiet. No precious revival has cheered our hearts and homes during the year. We have been through our usual routine, but few new plans for work have been developed, and there seems to be a strange quiet resting down upon us. We held a really excellent Convention at Pawtucket in October last, one largely attended by both pastors and laymen—one of deep interest throughout. I hoped to have carried out a plan later in the year for a campaign through the State, thus striving to reach our people more thoroughly; but we did not succeed in executing the plan. The Associations in the State with the exception of the Pawtucket, are doing about their usual work. The Pawtucket Association has not much activity at the present time. There has been an addition to our number, an Association at Olneyville, President O. C. Barrows. Most

of the Associations have held a Course of Lectures during the past winter. The Providence Association has been very successful in that line. There has also been built in our city a new hall to be called "Music Hall," built by Hon. A. C. Barstow, capable of seating nearly 2,500. Mr. Barstow was the first President of this Association, and has always its interest at heart. The Providence Association have had the honor of dedicating this Hall by giving a successful series of concerts. While we report these things, we regret that we are unable to report more progress spiritually. Our field is limited compared to that of most other States, but there is no excuse, and in the words of "Your Mission," "If you want a field to labor you can find it anywhere."

Yours, faithfully,

E. R. HOLDEN.

Cor. Mem. for R. I.

NEW-YORK.

POUGHKEEPSIE, May 17, 1871.

During the year now about closed, since my last Annual Report there has been no material change in the Associations in this State or their work. On the 6th of September a State Convention, our fifth annual, assembled at Poughkeepsie, which was an occasion of great spiritual interest, and has certainly produced a good result in the city where it was held, and we trust and believe elsewhere, also. The reports from Associations have been fuller than usual, and show an advance in the work on the part of some. The number now reported is fifty-two, which is seven less than stated last year, but I do not think there are really any less Associations; we have simply heard from those which ceased to exist some time ago, yet were retained on the list because we could not be certain whether they were alive or not.

At the Convention a State Executive Committee was formed, and among other duties assigned to it, were those of visiting the cities and towns of the State, endeavoring to stimulate the existing Associations to greater zeal, and to form new ones wherever it could be done. In pursuance of this plan, the members of the Committee have visited most of the Associations in the State. We found few engaged in really active work for the salvation of young men. In some the only work is the maintenance of a weekly devotional meeting. Most of them sustain a reading room. Several are active in Sunday School and mission work outside of the specific object for which our organizations exist. Want of regular means of raising money is a general fault, yet in this respect I think there is a gradual improvement. All are doing something, often in a quiet, unobtrusive way, that is scarcely noticed by those around, yet which has its influence in bringing here and there a soul to the Saviour, and is more powerful still in making those who engage in the work stronger and more useful soldiers for Christ; and a few Associations are really doing what they should—devoting their energies, intelligently and earnestly, to the salvation of young men.

One more Association—at North Shore, Staten Island—has commenced the erection of a building. When completed, this will make three owned in the State, besides several Mission Chapels.

Our next State Convention is expected to meet at Utica—time not fixed.

JOHN I. PLATT,

Cor. Member for N. Y.

PENNSYLVANIA.

The past year has been one, we trust, of steady, permanent progress. At the date of our last Report, July 1st, there were in our State 62 Associations, 35 of which had been organized during the year. Of these, for various causes, we have dropped three from our list, and four others, while they keep up their organization, are doing but little in the way of active work. We hope for a revival of the work in the whole of these seven places during the coming Fall. Some of these Associations have been represented at our local Conventions, and have, we hope, been infused with a desire for more activity. At the present time there are 92 Associations in the State, 33 of which have been organized during the year, and others in process of organization will, we think, give us 100 Associations in the State before the close of the year. With but few exceptions, these Associations are engaged in an active progressive work for the Master, and in many of them His presence has been specially manifested. Many of those in the smaller towns and country districts have done a work during the year far beyond our expectations, and have demonstrated that Association work in good hands cannot fail to be a success in any field. The work in the Association in the aggregate is, we think, fully tenfold greater than it was a year ago. Then many of the new organizations lacked an understanding and appreciation of the work, and some of the older ones had grown dull in the service, or had never properly entered into it; but a new life has been infused into most of our organizations, which promises not only new Associations, but renewed activity in all. Many Associations have reported unusual religious interest, with a large number of conversions. In the large cities, the work has been more particularly that with young men, yet much miscellaneous religious work has been done. In the small towns and country districts it has been more work for young men to do. The work in jails, alms-houses, hospitals, etc., has been carried on very extensively and profitably, and the neglect of this "open door" in accessible points, reflects seriously on the Associations neglecting it.

The Association at Turtle Creek, a village of 500 inhabitants, have erected a comfortable building during the year; also the Association at Dunbar, a country place where there is no village, have ready for dedication a neat new building, just suited to their wants, and have the funds to pay for it. The Philadelphia Association at an expense of \$40,000 have purchased a property, and are fitting it up for a Young Men's Home; other organizations are moving in the important matter of securing buildings. The more efficient organization of the State Executive Committee has most materially assisted your Corresponding Member. This Committee have issued during the year half a million pages of Association information, twenty thousand printed letters and circulars, and have written thousands of letters in the interest of the Association work. During the year one person, (and much of the time two,) has been employed exclusively in this work. Most of the Associations have been visited during the year by some member of the Executive Committee. A vast work has been done by the Committee in arousing the Associations to an interest in the Temperance cause, and many thousand letters and circulars have been sent into all parts of the State, and have not only evoked an unprecedented interest in the cause of Temperance, but have enlisted the interest of many in the general work of the Associations.

A series of local Conventions, some twenty in number, have been held, reaching in their influence into all parts of our State; they have been well

attended, and in every case a renewed interest has been aroused in the work. These with our Annual State Conventions, we feel necessary to the proper prosecution of our work. Viewing the magnitude and importance of the work, we regret that our record is not a brighter one, yet God has been with us in the past, and to Him be the glory for the wonderful manner in which he has blessed us.

T. K. CREE,

Cor. Member for Penn.

MARYLAND.

The Young Men's Christian Association of Baltimore, recently celebrated its Nineteenth Anniversary, and is in a most prosperous condition.

The Association now occupies rented apartments on Baltimore Street, one of which contains a well selected Library, the leading secular and religious literature of the day, and has during the year received twenty-six thousand visits.

Twelve thousand missionary visits have been made among the sick and poor, their temporal wants supplied, and their minds directed to the Lamb of God who taketh away the sins of the world. Thirteen hundred bar-rooms have been visited, in three hundred of which singing, prayer and earnest exhortation has been had. God has wonderfully blessed us in this work. More than a quarter of a million tracts and Association cards have been carefully distributed in bar rooms, at the theatres, and in destitute sections of the city. One hundred thousand copies of the GOOD NEWS, published by the Association have been distributed.

Regular Noon-day, Saturday evening and Saturday afternoon meetings have been held at the rooms, with encouraging results. Cottage and Mission Meetings have been held in neglected neighborhoods, and for several months five Open Air Meetings were held weekly, resulting in the salvation of many souls.

Two Mission Schools have been sustained, having an average attendance of about three hundred children, gathered mostly from otherwise neglected homes. In all over eighteen hundred Mission Meetings have been held by the Association during the year. Three hundred young men have been furnished employment, and five thousand lodgings and meals have been furnished to the destitute and suffering.

In January, a public meeting was called by fifty of the leading representative men of our city and State to devise means for the erection of a building for the Association. It was resolved to raise \$200,000; \$90,000 has been subscribed up to this date, and the full amount is considered as good as insured.

The good cause is gaining strength in Maryland. The Frederick Association is doing a noble work. Annapolis, Hagerstown and Harrisonville are also blessed with earnest workers. As yet no special effort has been made to organize in the smaller towns of the State, but it is hoped that during the coming year much may be done in this direction.

Our hearts have been made glad by the consolidation of the Central and Baltimore Associations, an object so long desired and so happily consummated, and we trust such action will result in greater things for the Master's cause

during the coming year. The West Baltimore Association occupies a building of its own, and is doing a good work in its neighborhood.

The Ladies' Association organized two years ago, has proved a wonderful success, and is doing a great work for Christ. We believe through its instrumentality many poor abandoned souls have been led the "narrow way."

DAVID W. GLASS,
Cor. Mem., Maryland.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The Y. M. C. A. work of the past year has been prospered in the City of Washington. Our meetings have all been largely attended, and have been as follows :

Daily, three in summer, and two in winter ; neighborhood, jail, almshouse, youths', at Women's Christian Association in Lincoln Hall, and in a tent kindly loaned us.

The Boys' Prayer-Meeting, a weekly meeting conducted by themselves, now averages in attendance about forty. Begun a little more than a year since by a little company of six, it has grown to a membership of more than one hundred. Some twenty or more conversions may be estimated as the direct fruits of these meetings.

During the winter, a Saturday-evening class was organized for training in congregational singing, under the direction of experienced members. The interest attending this experiment has been very gratifying.

Late in January, a plan was conceived of furnishing a breakfast on Sabbath morning of bread and coffee to destitute lodgers who were compelled to seek shelter in the station-house the night before. This was followed by a short religious service. Here, too, the Master has deigned to be present in subduing power, and testimonies have come to us of new life-purposes, dating back to this humble breakfast-room.

We have recently held Sunday-night services in a large tent temporarily located on Pennsylvania avenue, and kindly loaned to us by its proprietor, Professor Pratt. Five of these services have been held. Through no instrumentality yet employed have we so nearly realized our desire to meet the masses.

A well-known saloon-keeper has offered us, free, the use of a hall in which to continue the services when the tent shall be removed.

We are greatly encouraged by the fact that nearly 200 persons have professed conversion in the various services.

About 250 persons were added to our membership at our late anniversary.

The systematic visitation of the sick has lately enlisted the attention of the young men. Their plans are now such that any case reported to them will receive at least one visit a day from some one of the committee appointed to that work.

There are two colored Associations in our city, one at the Howard University, and the other in the city, which are both earnestly at work in their sphere for the accomplishment of good.

GEORGE A. HALL,
Member for District of Columbia.

OHIO.

The year just passed has been one of unusual interest. A very large number of our members attended the June Convention and returned inspired with new zeal. Our State Convention was held at Cincinnati in November, and the discussions were all of a practical character. It was resolved to institute some systematic measures to arouse dormant Associations, to organize new ones, and to secure greater efficiency in all. The Executive Committee was instructed to carry into effect these resolutions, and ample means were placed at its disposal. A plan was devised and perfected, which resulted in our "Holy Crusade," or sixty days campaign. A series of meetings was held in thirty-five different cities and large towns under the auspices of the Executive Committee, with assistance from many excellent laymen from Cincinnati, Cleveland, Mansfield, Salem, and Zanesville, who generously gave their time and talents to the cause. The valuable services of Mr. Burnell were also secured for the whole campaign, and they contributed largely to its success. One, two, or three days were spent in each place, and the interest invariably increased from the beginning to the close. The delegation was usually met most cordially, and many invitations to hold services were received, which could not be accepted.

In some towns Associations were organized where none had ever existed, new life was infused into many that were waning, and some gracious revivals of religion have followed the visits of the brethren. Many conversions have been already reported to us, and the indirect results are incalculable.

In February, the delegation visited Columbus and organized an Association in the State penitentiary. Many of the convicts had been hopefully converted, and desired some organization to hold them together.

For obvious reasons, a denominational church was not practicable, and all agreed that a Young Men's Christian Association would best supply their needs. The prison authorities co-operated heartily, the excellent chaplain was elected president, and the Association is now in full operation.

In other respects we have not been idle. Springdale reports a commodious building, the first Association building in Ohio.

Cleveland is the second on our State list, and has a handsome edifice in the centre of the city. Four other Associations have building funds. The reading rooms have been well sustained, and the libraries have been steadily increasing. On the whole, we have every reason to be thankful and hopeful.

H. P. LLOYD,

Corresponding Member for Ohio.

INDIANA.

The meeting of the International Convention last year gave a new impulse to the work of the Associations in our State.

Their number remains about the same as one year ago, but the Christian work performed has largely increased, and the cause of Associations has become more strongly endeared to the hearts of the people.

During the last week of March, 1871, a State Convention was held at Greencastle, at which time a State organization was completed. The meeting, although not large in numbers, was full of Christian enthusiasm. Our good

brother, Mr. Robert Weidensall, agent of our Executive Committee, was present, and by his earnest words did much to promote the harmony and efficiency of the meeting. Since the Convention, Mr. Weidensall has been visiting different portions of our State, has been well received, and has in many cases roused the brethren to new activity.

The Association in this city is rejoicing in the late acquisition of a home of its own.

During the past year a successful effort was made to raise funds to purchase a building. In all, about \$24,000 has been raised. A building, lately occupied by a Varieties Theatre, club-room and drinking saloon, has been purchased, and where was once a den of sin and wretchedness is now heard the voice of prayer and praise to God.

The hearty sympathy of our Christian people in the work of the Association was clearly manifested in the readiness with which they contributed of their means for the purchase of our home.

M. R. BARNARD,
Cor. Mem. for Indiana.

KENTUCKY.

I regret exceedingly that we are doing no better in this State. As yet we have no Associations doing anything outside of this city. One has lately been formed in Clarksville, another at Covington. Our own Association continues reasonably prosperous, though not so efficient as we had hoped. We are hoping for better things by God's help ere long, and trust that at an early day we may secure good organizations at several other points in the State. I am happy to report the organization in this city of a German Y. M. C. A., made up from the membership of the various evangelical Protestant churches in the city. The officers are Rev. William Behrendt, President; William Marcus, Secretary; L. A. L. Johanboeke, Treasurer. Rooms are open daily for prayer meetings, lessons in drawing, singing, book-keeping, etc. The Association has on hand several hundred dollars as a library fund, with which they will send to Germany, in a few weeks, by an active member who goes there on a visit, for the commencement of their library, to which they expect to add from time to time. This Association is in excellent hands, and we hope for much good from it hereafter.

I am inclined to think that we in this section meet with difficulties in organizing and successfully carrying on Y. M. C. A.'s that you of the North know nothing of. I refer to the division existing throughout the State in two of the leading denominations, the Presbyterians and Methodists. In nearly all places of importance these denominations exist in two branches, Northern and Southern, which are more difficult to work together than the membership of entirely distinct denominations. We have great confidence, however, that these differences must soon pass away, and our prayer is that God may speed the day.

JOHN I. WHEAT,
Cor. Mem. for Kentucky.

MICHIGAN.

One of the most noticeable events in connection with our work in Michigan, during the past year, has been the trip of Mr. Weidensall, Agent of the

Executive Committee, which followed our State Convention of January 17th and 18th.

His route was carefully planned. Fifteen places were visited. At Battle Creek, the promise was made to reorganize a Y. M. C. A. At Albion, Adrian, and Hillsdale, college Associations will be organized; and at Ypsilanti and Kalamazoo, the State Normal School and College, with the hearty support of the professors, have already formed Associations. At Port Huron, a Y. M. C. A. was formed.

To the work of forming Associations in colleges, our State Convention gave particular attention, and a Committee of Two, Mr. J. C. Seely, from the University Association at Ann Arbor, and Mr. Irving Shephard, of Olivet College, were appointed to act with the State Executive Committee in promoting the formation of Associations in connection with the several educational institutions in the State. As a result of their efforts, we have, organized and in process of organization, seven Christian Associations at literary Schools in Michigan. The work will be prosecuted still further.

During the year we have also fully systematized our plan of having all the Associations elect officers at the same time, and such a list of officers of the Associations in Michigan may be obtained, we hope, next January, as will hold good for a year.

We have also inaugurated the plan of ordering through some one source such magazines and papers as the various Associations desire for their reading-rooms, and by so doing we get an average discount of nearly 30 per cent. from rates previously paid.

The present status of Associations in Michigan is as follows: Alive and prospering, 18; organized, but not active, 5; organizing, 4.

SILAS FARMER,

Cor. Mem. for Michigan.

WISCONSIN.

The Corresponding Member of your Committee for Wisconsin, would respectfully submit the following Report:

Whole number of Associations now existing in the State, thirteen, having an aggregate membership of one thousand. Six Associations report having reading-rooms open daily to the public, (Sundays excepted); one sustains a City Missionary; eight maintain weekly and three daily Prayer Meetings; three sustain Open Air Services; five have sermons preached to young men; two sustain Bible Classes for Young Men; three report courses of lectures; two hold Social Meetings. None of the Associations own the buildings they occupy, or have a Building Fund.

Most of the Associations are in a prosperous condition. A few are sadly embarrassed from a lack of the necessary funds to carry forward the work, and added to this the seeming apathy of a portion of the Active (?) Membership.

The First Annual Convention of the Wisconsin Associations, was held at Janesville, Nov. 8d, 4th and 5th, 1870. The number of delegates present (seventy,) was large for the number of Associations in the State, and showed a degree of interest in the work that was gratifying. The practical results of the Convention may be seen in the increased activity among the Associations, and a more general interest in our work on the part of the public.

The work accomplished by your Agent, Mr. R. Weidensall, during October, 1870, was very satisfactory, and I confidently look for large returns in future years from his faithful efforts. Already we have three new Associations as fruits of his labors. This branch of effort on the part of your Committee cannot be dispensed with without loss to the cause.

The Milwaukee Association has been revived, and is now in a good financial condition; they are laying plans for a good work among the ten thousand uncared for young men of that city, having wisely decided to devote their entire efforts in behalf of young men. I am glad to be able to state that nearly all of our Associations now see that their true mission is to concentrate their efforts and work specifically for young men.

Your Corresponding Member has made every effort that he could make, with the time and means at his disposal, during the past year, as well as the two previous years, to advance the interests and increase the efficiency of the Associations in Wisconsin. And while he is faithfully conscious that the work has progressed slowly, yet he is grateful to God that some progress has been made, and that the Associations as a whole, are pushing forward the good work committed to their charge, strong in the Lord of Hosts who hath promised the victory to those who are faithful to the end.

Our defeats in the past have been from a misapprehension of our legitimate work. But with the knowledge gained by experience, the future is bright with the promise of a great and good work.

HENRY J. COWLES,

Cor. Member for Wisconsin.

MINNESOTA.

The progress of Y. M. C. A. work in Minnesota has been, during the past year, rather slow, though, we trust, thorough. Only a few Associations have been organized. There has been no very marked religious interest of a general character. Mr. Weidensall spent a month with us last fall, doing a good work in our smaller towns, chiefly by organizing union committees of the churches to do Association work. The committee in St. Anthony, a town of 5,000 inhabitants, began holding occasional meetings in a district not provided with churches, in a large saloon, by consent of the owner, his wife demurring, probably from her finer sense of inconsistencies. A very interesting revival ensued. Large audiences are now in regular attendance upon the services. Our first State Convention, held in Minneapolis, December 22d and 23rd, was an occasion of a good deal of interest. Some measures were provided for mission work in our lumbering districts. Mr. K. A. Burnell was with us, having previously held laymen's institutes at several of our larger towns. The greatest difficulty we have to contend with is "business"—the furious and universal rush after gain.

W. O. HISKEY,

Cor. Mem. for Minnesota.

NEBRASKA.

The Omaha Association at present is doing very little indeed. A heavy debt, with little or no income, makes our prospects gloomy. An Association

has been formed in Plattsmouth during the past year, which has a fine reading room and a large and active membership. I have heard good things from them. An effort was recently made at Lincoln to organize an Association; with what success I have not learned. Our present situation may be summed up as follows: very low state of religion, inactive Associations, with a dead membership. It is our earnest prayer that God will send his Spirit to awaken our membership and bless their efforts in the conversion of souls.

WILLIAM R. BENTLEY,

Cor. Mem. for Nebraska.

WEST VIRGINIA.

I have urged Wheeling, Parkersburg, Charleston and Holden Associations to fill up their blanks and forward you the statistical information in their possession. Moundsville and Clarksburg, two old Associations inactive during the last two years, have been written to, and I beg leave to inclose the reply of Rev. Bro. Blackford. I have urged the sending of a delegate as a means of restoring it to vitality. The Moundsville Association I cannot hear from, and believe it to be extinct. The Malden Association and that at Morgantown are the only ones I am aware of being organized in the State during the year. At Charleston one is in process of organization, though not reported to the Executive Committee. Efforts have been made by letter and by conversation with young Christians in other towns for formation of new Associations, but as yet nothing apparent or tangible can be reported.

The State Convention, which I endeavored through your suggestion to accomplish, has proved impossible hitherto. I trust, however, that another year will witness some advance in this direction, in the establishment of more new Associations.

I would suggest the visiting of our State by some experienced agent of the Executive Committee, or the issuing of some printed "circular of directions" for organization of Associations which will be furnished to corresponding members for their use before the Christians of the different towns. It is not practicable in our sparsely settled region for corresponding members to visit widely-separated towns for the purpose of urging forward the formation of Associations, but something might be effected by letter, and instruction proper to members of different Churches, showing the necessity for, and manner of organizing.

ALVANO F. GIBBENS,

Corresponding Member Ex. Com. Y. M. C. A. for West Virginia.

MR. WEIDENSALL'S REPORT.

The field in which I labored for the past year, was much more populous than the districts I visited during the first two years of my mission. It was also richer in the materials which go to make up vigorous Young Men's Christian Associations.

Hence I was able to accomplish a work more satisfactory to myself, substantial in its nature and equal in importance to all the work performed by me, as your agent, previous to the Indianapolis Convention.

I have travelled five thousand five hundred miles. Assisted in organizing sixteen new Associations. Secured the appointment of Union Committees in ten towns, where it was deemed inadvisable to effect complete Associations.

Have made fifteen public addresses, besides preaching frequently in the pulpit and in the street, and have made numberless talks in prayer meetings, sabbath schools, etc. Called upon and advised with twenty-six existing Associations. Discovered six Yünglings-Vereins, and laid before them the object and aims of our Associations; visited in all ninety-eight towns and cities and benefited them all I could, if it were nothing more than to bring the ministers and members of the various churches together to acknowledge each other as fellow-laborers in the great work of saving souls.

As directed by the Executive Committee, I first reported to Mr. H. J. Cowles, at Madison, Corresponding Member for Wisconsin.

He soon mapped out for me a route to follow. At Fon du Lac, a town of twelve thousand inhabitants, I found a non-pretentious Association which was doing a good work. Spent a Sabbath with them, visited the mission stations, preached at the dockyard and addressed a large union meeting in the evening, held in the interests of the Association.

In Lawrence University, at Appleton, I met with the Christian students, explained to them the nature of our Association, and showed them the advantage of such an organization in a college. They unanimously agreed to form one. Furnishing them the necessary advice and papers, I left them and went to Beaver Dam, where, after considerable canvassing, I succeeded in effecting a very promising Association. Went thence to Portage City, on the canal uniting the Upper Fox and Wisconsin Rivers. The Association there was in a languishing condition. Called to see its officers, who gave me a gloomy account of it. They had a very pleasant room in the Court House, with rent paid five years in advance. Fortunately my visit was about the time when the Annual Meeting should be held. Hence I got them to call a public meeting, which was tolerably well attended, considering the circumstances. I addressed them and called upon the ministers to commit themselves to the work. The meeting was productive of good, for at the proper time the Annual Meeting was called and new officers were chosen, which gave the Association life again. The Association has some very good workers, who maintained a number of Cottage Meetings, even when the Association was almost dead.

Took the train for Milwaukee. Made the acquaintance of some very eminent Christian workers, many of whom longed for the time when an active Association would again exist in that city. Considered well the advice of those who were sanguine that an Association could be undertaken at once, as well as the advice of those who waited for a more auspicious time. Thought I saw advantage in delay. Before leaving the city, however, I advised as many as I could to attend the State Convention, hoping to secure a large delegation, who would be so worked upon by the Convention, as to go home prepared to re-organize their Association.

My hopes were realized, for the Milwaukee delegation were among the most active in the Convention, and they started home, determined to accomplish the most.

Visited a large number of the Germans in the city. Found three Yüngling's Vereins, connected with individual Lutheran Churches, but open to proper applicants from without. Their aims are similar to our own. They are not so fully impressed with the necessity of Prayer Meetings, but are equally anxious

with us about the religious welfare of those whom they can influence. They are endeavoring to counteract the same evil influences against which we are arrayed.

Attended the State Convention of the Congregational Church, at Racine, that I might become acquainted with the ministers and laymen from different parts of the State. Met the President and other members of the Y. M. C. A. there, but could do nothing in the way of holding a meeting, as the Convention absorbed all attention. I had a pleasant interview with the City Missionary, who was doing most of the Association work at that time, though not employed by the Association.

Went thence to Elkhorn, where a public meeting was announced, but the inclement weather prevented a reasonable turnout. A Union Committee was appointed from the churches to provide for all work of an Association character.

In Delevan, a small town, an Association has been kept up for ten years. They generally suspend operations during the summer. A public meeting was held after the adjournment of the Church Prayer Meeting. I addressed it in behalf of the Association. From that meeting they commenced their winter's campaign.

Visited Beloit, an enterprising town, whose Association had very comfortable quarters in a convenient locality and had sterling workers, though few, to carry forward its operations. Attended the students' Daily Prayer Meeting in the college. The Street Service on Sabbath afternoon was impressive and well attended, though the weather was cold and windy. A Union Meeting was held in the Presbyterian Church, on Sabbath evening, under the auspices of the Association. The house was crowded. A well arranged programme was carried out, which reflected honor upon the Association, and sent the audience away favorably impressed with Association work.

Took the cars for Monroe, an old and growing town. Could not induce the Christian people to organize an Association. They agreed to appoint a committee, in which all the Evangelical Churches would be represented. This being done, I left them and went to Whitewater, where I found a very well managed Association.

Returned to Madison. Visited the State University located there, which has a membership of nearly five hundred students. Attended the students' Saturday evening Prayer Meeting, and showed them the necessity of an Association in that large school, after which they unanimously agreed to form one.

The Associations are peculiarly adapted to State educational institutions, as all objections pertaining to denominational interference fall to the ground. Also it would be circumscribing the liberty of students, should the State or Faculty interfere with the voluntary work thus done by the associated Christian students.

Remained in Madison over the Sabbath and following Monday, in the evening of which I led the City Association meeting.

Started for the State Convention, at Janesville, by a circuitous route, hoping thereby to accomplish something in the several days preceding the Convention, but was unable to do more than to secure the attendance of a few delegates at the Convention, who perhaps would not have otherwise been present. Attended all the sessions of the Convention. Will not pretend to give an outline of what was done, as its proceedings have been published and widely distributed. It was a success. I learned a great many valuable lessons from it. Its success depended largely upon the many and warm-hearted letters sent out by the

Corresponding Member, as well as upon the thorough canvass of your State by your agent, previous to the assembling of the Convention.

After the adjournment of the Convention, I started for Minnesota by way of La Crosse, where I had hoped to establish an organization, but failed. Situated on the Mississippi River, and growing rapidly, La Crosse furnished a good field for Association work. Secured a meeting of representative men from the churches, who appointed a committee that their difficult field might be worked up as much as possible.

Took passage on a steamboat for St. Paul. Held religious services in the ladies' cabin at the close of the day.

Next morning landed in the city. Met Mr. McBurney of the Executive Committee, with whom I visited the Associations of St. Paul and Minneapolis. Attended the special meetings called in consequence of Mr. McBurney's presence. Minneapolis being my head-quarters, I attended other meetings of the Association there and in St. Paul.

According to direction of Mr. W. O. Hickey, Corresponding Member for Minnesota, I crossed the river to St. Anthony from Minneapolis. An Association once existed there, but went down under the burden of a debt. It accomplished a good work while it lived, and its death was lamented.

Here let me remark that the death of all Y. M. C. A. wherever I have been, that labored directly for the salvation of souls while they lived, has been a source of regret, even as the death of a good man. But where they strove merely to gratify and please, without pointing out the higher life, their death was regarded by Christians as a blessing, and no one was ready to revive them.

Those who belonged to the old Association in St. Anthony, would not consent to reorganize until the debt was paid off. However, they agreed to do all they could through a union committee which was appointed, until the way was clear to set the old Association on its feet again.

Went to Anoka, a small town on the St. Paul and Pacific R. R. The Association there maintained its existence and had a very pleasant and convenient room with rent paid one year in advance. For a long time large and interesting prayer meetings were maintained, but were for some reason discontinued. They continued to hold union meetings on Sabbath evenings once a month, in which all the churches participated. One of these meetings I addressed. Advised them to begin again the prayer meetings at the rooms of the Association, which they consented to do.

Returned to St. Paul and went thence to Duluth. Visited the Association room the first thing, as it was convenient to the depot and on the principal street. Was agreeably surprised at its attractiveness. The librarian was an old sea captain, but had lost all the earnings of his youth and was now engaged in that humble, though praiseworthy employment. Made the acquaintance of most of the members. Attended the monthly meeting and encouraged them all I could. Duluth has a hard field for Christian work.

Returned to Minneapolis and went to Hastings, a considerable town on the Mississippi River, where I succeeded in forming an Association without much difficulty. There was need of it, and my visit was regarded by many as a providential circumstance. They proposed to open a free reading-room as soon as a new and convenient room, just then fitting up, would be completed.

Passed through a number of towns on my way to the southern part of the State, among which was Faribault, where I found a Christian brotherhood under the auspices of the Episcopal Church. They kept open a free reading-room

with a good library, which was to receive a large accession from Europe. The room was attractive. The only objection to it as a general reading room, was that the publications were mostly Episcopalean. Among its members were strong Christian Association workers.

At Austin, the last town I visited in Minnesota, an Association was readily organized. It was a comparatively new and growing town where several railroads centered. The field was ripe and the probabilities were that a good work would be done.

The reason I did not make a more thorough canvass of Minnesota, was that Mr. Hiskey had made previous arrangements with Mr. Burnell to visit other parts of the State. Called upon Rev. George H. Ransom, Corresponding Member for Iowa, at his residence in Webster City, but he had no field marked out for me. Went to Sioux City, but could accomplish nothing more than the appointing of a Union committee. There was plenty of room for Association work, but a great lack of material to form an organization.

Returned to Omaha, where I awaited the direction of the Executive Committee. Received a telegram to report to Mr. S. Farmer, at Detroit, Corresponding Member for Michigan. In compliance with which, I passed through one of the most fearful storms I ever witnessed. Arrived in good time to accompany the Detroit Delegation to the State Convention at Jackson. Participated in the Convention. There I first met Dr. Verranus Morse.

At the adjournment of the Convention, I went to Albion on the Michigan Central R. R.; could do nothing in the town, but formed an Association in the College.

Went to Lansing, capital of the State. It was very much scattered and had a large number of churches. Called together many of the Christian workers. After considerable debate, it was deemed inexpedient to organize an Association, but satisfied that a work was to be done, they appointed a Union committee, which I afterward learned was doing a good work. Visited the Associations at Ionia and Grand Rapids.

Organized an Association at Muskegon, a town of eight thousand inhabitants, on Lake Muskegon. The Association was entered into with some degree of reluctance, but with a firm determination to succeed. Returned to Grand Rapids, and, at the suggestion of one of the brethren, I called at Lowell, a small manufacturing town on the Detroit and Milwaukee Railroad, where they at once entered into an organization, and at Greenville, a town of three thousand inhabitants, the supply depot of a large lumbering district. There I was heartily received. They were ripe for an Association. All parties went into it. Religion is a prominent characteristic of the place. Intemperance is obliged to take back seats. An Association was immediately organized and a reading room was to be opened forthwith. The probabilities were that a building would be purchased for the use of the Association. At Greenville, I met the Michigan lumberman who gave fifty dollars at the Portland Convention to the Missionary fund. Many thousands of lumbermen are employed in the pineries about Greenville. They are constantly coming and going for supplies, etc. The reading room is largely intended for this class of men. Frequent accidents happen to these lumbermen, and it is designed to make provision for such cases.

At St. Johns, on the Detroit and Milwaukee Railroad, and at Flint, several miles north-east, I could effect nothing more than the appointment of Union Committees.

Visited the Association in Michigan University, at Ann Arbor. Had a very pleasant and profitable time with its live workers.

In company with a delegation of Association students from the University, I attended an appointed meeting in the State Normal School at Ypsilanti. The first part of the meeting was purely devotional, afterwards I spoke to the students of the peculiar fitness of a Y. M. C. A. in a State Normal School. Showed them that no other effective religious organization could well exist there, and that an acquaintance with Association work would qualify them to form such societies in their own school-rooms, wherever they might teach, inasmuch as the rooms would frequently be at their own disposal. The students and professors forthwith resolved themselves into an Association, and appointed a committee to draft papers for a permanent organization. After which the University students addressed the members of the Normal School, and were happily responded to by the professors. It was a delightful meeting.

Took the cars for Port Huron, a town of eight thousand inhabitants, on the St. Clair River. Met with decided opposition at first, by persons who regarded the Association as nothing more than a mere moral reform institution. But when I declared the true object of the Association, and the kind of men that were required to constitute its active membership, all these objections were hushed, and the objectors were the warmest friends of the movement to organize an Association, which was accomplished with but little difficulty. All parties entered into it with warm hearts and a determination to succeed. Statements made render it probable that a building may be erected for the use of the Association. There was bright promise of success.

Returned to Detroit, and thence to Adrian. Attended meetings of the Association in both places. At Adrian I met with a Yünglings-Verein, which has been organized for some time. It is associated with a Lutheran Church, but open to all.

Visited the colleges at Adrian, Hillsdale and Kalamazoo, and secured beyond a doubt the establishment of an Association in each of them. Mr. J. C. Seeley of the University, accompanied me to Adrian and Hillsdale Colleges.

When the Convention met in Jackson, there were but two institutions in the State that had Associations, but with the assistance of the students of Olivet College and the University, I was enabled to add five more to the list.

Was ordered to report to Mr. M. B. Barnard, at Indianapolis, Corresponding Member for Indiana. On my way I stopped at Chicago, Ill., Logansport and Peru, Ind. Found the Logansport Association doing a good work, and appeared to be in a prosperous condition, but had lowered the standard of active membership. I believe that ere long they will return to the high plane, from which they came down.

At Peru I had a pleasant sojourn. The Association is doing all it can. Addressed a Sabbath Afternoon Prayer Meeting. In a business meeting, on Monday evening following, I advised with the members until late at night how they might further the interests of the Association. Went to Indianapolis the next day, where I had the pleasure of conducting the first devotional service in the new building.

Accompanied the Indianapolis delegation to the State Convention at Green Castle. The Convention was small, but the interest was great. All present felt that Indiana required more thorough organization, and resolved to do all they could to effect so desirable a result. A resolution was unanimously

adopted that no Association organized after that date could be represented in the future Conventions of the State, unless they would adopt the test of active membership at Detroit and Portland.

Went northward, as directed by Mr. Barnard, to Crawfordsville. Attended a meeting of the town Association. Induced them to interest the churches to make a thorough canvass of the town, and invite every resident to attend church or Sabbath School; also to print directory cards to be handed to sojourners and strangers with invitations thereon to attend both the meetings of the Association and the churches. This I afterwards learned was carried out with good success. I preached to a large street meeting on Sabbath afternoon. Street services have been maintained ever since.

Visited the "Society of Inquiry," a religious institution in Wabash College, located in Crawfordsville. Sought to change the character of it. The students did not like to part with the name, but took measures to make it, in every other respect, a Y. M. C. A. They maintain a Daily Prayer Meeting, and propose to use greater efforts to reach the irreligious students.

At Lafayette, I found the Association in good condition. Attended a meeting in the Presbyterian Church, largely made up of Association members from the various churches, and addressed them for a few minutes.

Several Lafayette brethren accompanied me to Delphi, to attend a meeting advertised in behalf of a newly organized Association. The meeting was well attended, and many new members were added to the society.

Returned by way of Green Castle to New Albany, a city of twenty thousand inhabitants, where it was supposed that an Association was not called for. A meeting was held and after considerable debate a resolution prevailed to enter immediately into an organization. Arrangements were made to complete the same in future meetings.

Visited the English Association in Louisville, Ky. Was present at the meeting of the Executive Committee. Spent considerable time with the newly appointed Librarian, and at his request, gave him all the information I could.

Called upon the president of the German Yünglings-Verein which was organized within the past year. Found him a pure-hearted and active Christian man. He had opened up a correspondence with the German Societies in St. Louis, New-York, Indianapolis, and other places, with a view to a more concerted action on the part of the Germans.

The Association has fifty-five members. They have rented a third story room for one hundred dollars per year and hold four meetings a week. One of their number is going to Germany, who will purchase for them a library with money now in their possession. They have two classes of membership, active and associate. Some Catholics handed in their names to become active members, and a committee was appointed to consider the propriety of accepting them as such. I hunted up the committee, showed them how our English Associations stood on that question, and urged them to set their standard high. One of their number told me that they intended to exist, purposed to take the highest grounds and hoped to make the Association accomplish the most possible good.

Went to Jeffersonville and addressed a Union meeting held in the interests of the Association. Passed up the Ohio River to Madison and addressed an appointed meeting of the Association.

Visited Hanover College four miles from Madison, where an Association had been organized within the past year. Spoke on Sabbath evening to the first

of a series of revival meetings to be conducted under the auspices of the College Y. M. C. A. The meeting was well attended, and the Holy Spirit was manifestly present.

Went thence to Cincinnati, and then to Aurora, a river town, where I addressed a very large Union meeting on Sabbath evening in behalf of the Association there, which was doing a good work.

On my return to Indianapolis, I stopped at Greensburg and spoke to a public meeting concerning Association work in other places to encourage the incipient movement there.

They keep open a free reading-room, in a convenient room, under the Presbyterian Church. They have required no test for active membership, and have not thus far claimed to be recognized as an Association in the full sense of the term, but hope soon to place themselves in line with the other organizations of the State. Also stopped at Shelbyville, where a meeting was held after the church prayer-meeting.

Having made a few general remarks, a Union Committee was appointed to provide for all work that could be done during the Summer, and to take the earliest steps in the Fall to secure the organization of an Association.

At Indianapolis the Association has become the centre of religious interest since the purchase of the new building. Under the superintendency of Mr. Brandt, they are not only doing a work never attempted there before, but are fast perfecting a more thorough system.

With the hope that the Great Head of the Church will give increase to what has been sown in weakness and watered with the prayers of his servants,

I am yours, in Christ,

ROBERT WEIDENSALL,

Agent Young Men's Christian Association.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT.

After writing my report at Indianapolis, I visited seven other towns in Indiana.

At Rushville, a town of several thousand inhabitants, I secured the appointment of a Union Committee.

Addressed a Union meeting, on a Sabbath evening, in behalf of the Young Men's Christian Association of Cambridge City.

Visited the Association at Richmond, which took advantage of my presence to reorganize. Their old constitution was an incumbrance to them. They wished to get rid of it. A committee was appointed to draft new regulations. They propose to do spiritual work only, and to use every effort to raise up new workmen from the Sabbath School scholars and other young Christians.

In the other towns I was unable to accomplish anything that promised organized work.

Called upon the Associations in Dayton, Ohio, Pittsburg and Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; and attended a district Convention at York, Penn.

ROBERT WEIDENSALL,

Agent Y. M. C. A.

Hon. CEPHAS BRAINERD,

Chm. Ex. Com. Y. M. C. A.

NEW JERSEY.

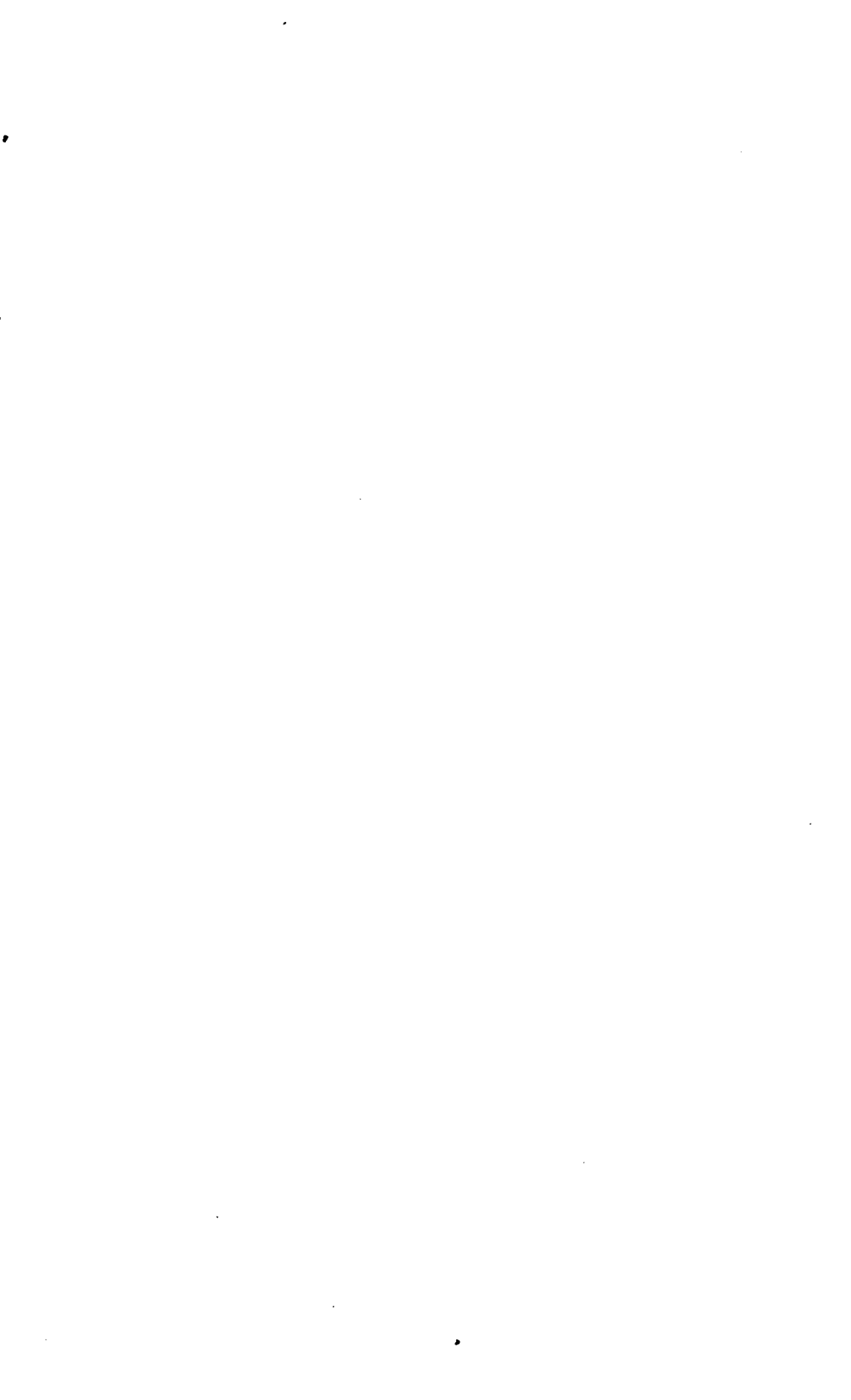
The New Jersey Young Men's Christian Association are doing a thorough Christian work. They are in earnest, and labor to give practical direction to their efforts. The Executive Committee have sub-divided the State into sections, and individual members of the Committee have these districts in charge, to promote the work of organizing the new Association and strengthening the old. Eight new Associations have been added to the roll of New Jersey. There are thirty-two Associations in the State, representing 2,076 active members and 1,046 associate members. In four of these alone 228 conversions have taken place. Beverly has the honor of being the first among our Associations to secure a *home*. Many of the Associations have passed the enthusiasm of early youth, and are now building up the tangible and sure basis of success, viz. earnest Christian work.

In behalf of the Corresponding Member,

CHARLES B. MORRIS, Montclair, N. J.,

JAMES BUCHANAN, Trenton, N. J.,

H. F. OSBORN, Newark, N. J.



YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES AND BRITISH PROVINCES. COMPILED FROM THE OFFICIAL REPORTS RECEIVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.—1870-71.

NAME—ADDRESS.	PRESIDENT.	CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.	No. of Members.	(Current Expenses last year.	Reading Room.	No. of Volumes in Library.	Estimated Value of Library.	Value of Building.	Amount of Debt on it.	Building Fund.	Sermons to Young Men.	Prayer Meetings at Rooms.	Bible Class.	Other Religious Meetings.	Was Lib. of Traver observed in Nov.	Literary Class.	Free Classes.	Direct Results of last year's work.	Special Religious Interest.	No. of Conventions during past year.
Akron, Ohio.....	J. H. Kohler, Esq.	O. D. Childs, M.D.	151	151	No						29	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	10
Albany N. Y.....	E. Savage	A. P. Adams	125	\$1,903	Yes	1,350	\$2,000				3	Daily	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	3
Albany, Mich.....	C. F. Brockway	J. F. McQueen	193	357	Yes	125					6	2 weekly	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	3
Albany, Pa.....	Chas. A. Pittsburg	G. W. Jones	193	357	Yes	60					6	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	3
Amherst, Mass.....	L. M. Beede	L. M. Beede	47	150		60				\$1,600	6	2 weekly	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	3
Amsterdam N. Y.....	T. R. Egan	Eldred	250	400		900					6	2 weekly	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	3
Ann Arbor University, Mich.....	W. B. Millard	G. P. Voorheis	180	975		1,150	1,000			None	No	2 weekly	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	4
Ansonia, Conn.....	D. Bartholomew	B. A. Uainer	120	220	Yes	150	225			None	No	Weekly	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	5
Anuguish, N. S.....	N. J. Beck	J. A. Thompson	35	240		240				None	12	Weekly	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	5
Ashtabula, Ohio.....	P. D. Stoner	R. L. Prescott	134	673	Yes	243	248			None	6	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	6
Attleboro, Mass.....	H. S. Balenck	G. E. Luther	60	313	Yes	243	248			None	6	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	6
Auburn, Me.....	A. H. Milliken	Wm. A. Robinson	135	712	Yes	1,300	2,300			2,500	3	2 weekly	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	6
Auburn, N. Y.....	Richard S. Holms	Byron C. Smith	108	1,100	Yes	400	100			None	Yes	Daily	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	2
Augusta, Me.....	D. Cargill	E. Allen	169	1,100	Yes	1,100	1,400	\$10,000	None	None	Yes	Daily	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	2
Aurora, Ill.....	W. Tyler	W. Tyler	100	1,100	Yes	1,100	1,400	\$10,000	None	None	Yes	Daily	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	2
Ayr. Prov. of Ontario, Can.....	Wm. Walker	T. Baker	25	5,025	Yes	2,000	3,000			90,000		Dy & w	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	100
Baltimore, Md.....	J. A. Boglano	G. S. Griffith, Jr.	1,400	5,025	Yes	2,000	3,000			90,000		Dy & w	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	100
Bath, Me.....	A. C. Palmer	E. Grove	103	200		200						2 weekly	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	2+3
Barrie, Prov. of Ont., Can.....	— Noreport																			
Beaver, Pa.....	Prof. R. T. Taylor	J. H. McCreery	57	600	Yes	30	75				4	Weekly	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	
Belchertown, Mass.....	E. P. Montague	A. E. Perry	89	90	Yes	318	400				3	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Belchertown, Pa.....	J. A. Weaver	G. W. Patton	91	750	Yes	50				None	4	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Belfast, Wis.....	C. W. Wheeler	S. A. Munger	55	100								Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Bethlehem, Pa.....	C. W. Kraus	M. Brittle	485	968	Yes	1,700	5,000	6,100		200	3	2 weekly	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	
Bethlehem, Me.....	E. F. Pillsbury	T. H. Hubbard	102	102		None				50	6	Sundays	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	1
Binghamton, N. Y.....	C. A. Whitney	Geo. E. Hand	87	750	Yes	105					5	Daily	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	
Bloomington, Pa.....	S. Knowlton	F. M. Bates	32	900	Yes	4,500	11,000			85,000	5	Weekly	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	
Boston, Mass.....	M. W. Pond	L. P. Rowland	2,000	8,000	Yes	300	500			None	No	2 weekly	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	
Boston Highlands, Mass.....	C. W. Hill	B. H. Brooks	190	700	Yes	300	500			None	No	2 weekly	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	
Brandon, Vt.....	J. R. Cheney	D. J. Marcoris	13	13	No						Yes	3 weekly	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	
Bradywine Manor, Pa.....	W. W. Heberton	J. Gessick	25	90	No						Yes	3 weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	

Brantford, Prov. of Ont., Can.	C. B. Moore.	T. Seafie.	131.	5251.	40	1 Weekly.	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
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CONTINUATION OF THE OFFICIAL REPORTS RECEIVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 1870-71.

NAME.—ADDRESS.	PRESIDENT.	CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.	No. of Members.	Current Expenses last year.	Reading Room.	No. of Volumes in Library.	Estimated Value of Library.	Value of Building.	Amount of Debt on It.	Building Fund.	Sermons to Young Men.	Prayer Meetings at Rooms.	Bible Class.	Other Religious Meetings.	When Day of Prayer observed in Nov.	Literary Class.	Free Classes.	Direct Results of last year's work.	Special Religious Interest.	No. of Conversions during past year.
Covington, Ky.	A. S. Reeves.	C. K. Nowell.	86	86	1	5 monthly	Yes	Yes	No
Cross Creek, Pa.	W. C. Anderson.	S. Stanley.	26	\$33	..	300	\$100	2 weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes
Damascusville, Ohio.	J. C. Robson.	M. K. Knight.	55	130	Yes	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes
Dartmouth, N. S.	M. B. Blochman.	J. J. Thompson	112	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes
Davenport, Iowa.	E. A. Daniles.	F. W. Parker.	260	4,134	Yes	165	250	Daily	Yes	Yes	Yes
Dayton, Ohio.	E. A. Smith.	S. Warner.	491	1,600	Yes	500	84	50	10	Daily	Yes	Yes	Yes
Detroit, Mich.	W. C. Chamberlain.	T. B. Tuttle.	150	300	Yes	75	3	Daily	No	Yes	Yes
Dubuque, Iowa.	O. B. Bird.	J. H. Tenney.	55	..	Yes	2 weekly	No	Yes	Yes
Duluth, Minn.	J. L. Paul.	Wm. E. Stroud.	130	1,350	Yes	700	\$1,000	..	\$175	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
Dunbar, Pa.	Wm. E. Stroud.	N. Beal.	180	960	Yes	800	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
East Brooklyn, N. Y.	E. A. Hutchins.	H. F. Rollins.	15	184	Yes	200	175	Daily	No	Yes	Yes
East Fairfield, Ohio.	S. L. Fisher.	J. W. Wilson.	81	825	Yes	24	50	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes
Easton, Pa.	S. C. Stora.	G. B. Wiggins.	50	150	No	Yes	No
East Saginaw, Mich.	J. S. Adams.	J. S. Bartlett.	15	Yes	Yes
Elgin, Ill.	G. A. Herrick.	R. A. Sanborn.	180	25,000	Yes	2,000	3,000	10	..	Yes	Yes	Yes
Elletts, Mo.	J. S. Hobbie.	J. F. Hurt, M.D.	260	1,500	Yes	900	1,000	Daily	No	Yes	Yes
Elmira, N. Y.	A. Ward.	J. A. Pettit, M.D.	47	100	No	No	No
Elizabeth, N. J.	I. L. Nelson.	J. M. Hart.	171	No	No
Elmira, Ohio.	A. H. Canthey	Chas. C. Shirk.	174	2,275	Yes	4,500	9,000	4	Weekly	No	Yes	No
Eric, Pa.	C. M. Bell.	C. M. Bell.	37	317
Excelsior, N. H.	N. Hooper.	N. Hooper.	35
East Haven, Vt.	F. H. Shigard.	N. R. Reed.	37	317
Fairlee, Vt.	J. Stratton.	N. R. Reed.	37	317
Fal River, Mass.	E. C. Naon.	J. C. Eddy.	497	2,500	Yes	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
Fal River, Ohio.	H. F. Winders.	J. W. H	497	2,500	Yes	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
Fal River, Ohio.	H. F. Winders.	J. W. H	497	2,500	Yes	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
Fal River, Ohio.	H. F. Winders.	J. W. H	497	2,500	Yes	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
Fal River, Ohio.	H. F. Winders.	J. W. H	497	2,500	Yes	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
Fal River, Ohio.	H. F. Winders.	J. W. H	497	2,500	Yes	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
Fal River, Ohio.	H. F. Winders.	J. W. H	497	2,500	Yes	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
Fal River, Ohio.	H. F. Winders.	J. W. H	497	2,500	Yes	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
Fal River, Ohio.	H. F. Winders.	J. W. H	497	2,500	Yes	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
Fal River, Ohio.	H. F. Winders.	J. W. H	497	2,500	Yes	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
Fal River, Ohio.	H. F. Winders.	J. W. H	497	2,500	Yes	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
Fal River, Ohio.	H. F. Winders.	J. W. H	497	2,500	Yes	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
Fal River, Ohio.	H. F. Winders.	J. W. H	497	2,500	Yes	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
Fal River, Ohio.	H. F. Winders.	J. W. H	497	2,500	Yes	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
Fal River, Ohio.	H. F. Winders.	J. W. H	497	2,500	Yes	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
Fal River, Ohio.	H. F. Winders.	J. W. H	497	2,500	Yes	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
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Fal River, Ohio.	H. F. Winders.	J. W. H	497	2,500	Yes	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
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Fal River, Ohio.	H. F. Winders.	J. W. H	497	2,500	Yes	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
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Fal River, Ohio.	H. F. Winders.	J. W. H	497	2,500	Yes	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
Fal River, Ohio.	H. F. Winders.	J. W. H	497	2,500	Yes	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
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Fal River, Ohio.	H. F. Winders.	J. W. H	497	2,500	Yes	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
Fal River, Ohio.	H. F. Winders.	J. W. H	497	2,500	Yes	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
Fal River, Ohio.	H. F. Winders.	J. W. H	497	2,500	Yes	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
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Fal River, Ohio.	H. F. Winders.	J. W. H	497	2,500	Yes	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
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Fal River, Ohio.	H. F. Winders.	J. W. H	497	2,500	Yes	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
Fal River, Ohio.	H. F. Winders.	J. W. H	497	2,500	Yes	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
Fal River, Ohio.	H. F. Winders.	J. W. H	497	2,500	Yes	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
Fal River, Ohio.	H. F. Winders.	J. W. H	497	2,500	Yes	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
Fal River, Ohio.	H. F. Winders.	J. W. H	497	2,500	Yes	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
Fal River, Ohio.	H. F. Winders.	J. W. H	497	2,500	Yes	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
Fal River, Ohio.	H. F. Winders.	J. W. H	497	2,500	Yes	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
Fal River, Ohio.	H. F. Winders.	J. W. H	497	2,500	Yes	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
Fal River, Ohio.	H. F. Winders.	J. W. H	497	2,500	Yes	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
Fal River, Ohio.	H. F. Winders.	J. W. H	497	2,500	Yes	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes		

Goldaville, N. S., D. C.	N. McLean	J. B. Pratt	33	50	No	364	600	None	Yes Weekly	Yes No	Yes	5
Goshen, Conn.	A. Sanford	F. A. Merrian	37	467	Yes				3 Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
Glenck, N. Y.	C. G. Elliott	N. G. Gunn	150	50		7	400	None	Weekly	Yes	Yes	
Granton, Mass.	Rev. C. B. Pittblack	E. Whitmore	94	178	Yes			None	Weekly	No	No	No
Grand Rapids, Mich.	H. B. Stratton	Rev. M. Smith	96	15	Yes			None	No	Yes	No	12
Granville, Ohio	J. J. Hollister	C. A. Towne	28	500	No	None			No	Yes	No	No
Green Village, Tully, N. S.	D. K. Parker	S. L. Poppald	58	15	No	None			1 monthly	No	No	No
Greenfield, Mass.	Rev. V. E. Glids	J. Landers	103	5	Yes	500			Weekly	No	Yes	No
Green Hill, Pictou Co., N. S.	L. L. Sumner	F. Pender	27	5					5 Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes
Guelpth, Prov. of Ont., Can.	J. McKenzie	L. Miller	64	85	Yes			None	8 monthly			
Hagerstown, Md.	D. McGuire	W. H. Maroon	51	85				None	Weekly	No	No	No
Halifax, N. S.	H. E. Norton	E. W. Leete	31	1,649	No	2,300		4,000	9 Weekly	No	No	No
Hamilin, N. S.	E. B. Kendall	F. T. Howser	225	1,611	Yes			None	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes
Hamilin, Ont., of Canada	J. B. Morrow	A. Patterson	233	200	Yes	300		None	Weekly	Yes	No	No
Hamilton, Ohio	A. L. McKenle	John C. Hale	159	327	Yes	75	100	None	Weekly	Yes	No	Yes
Hannover, Pa.	T. C. Beach	Wm. C. Miller	139	200	Yes	383		None	Daily	Yes	No	Yes
Harrisburg, Pa.	J. F. W. Sleeder	E. C. Beach	300	327	Yes	2,901		None	Weekly	No	Yes	No
Haverhill, Mass.	Rev. S. K. Dietrich	S. J. M. McCarrell	158	1,200	Yes	2,901		None	No D'y & w'y	Yes	No	Yes
Hillsboro, Ohio	S. L. B. Spears	G. W. Duncan	150	850	Yes		50	None	No	No	No	No
Holliston, Mass.	Wm. M. Melk	E. Carson	150	35	Yes			None	No	No	Yes	No
Holbrook, Me.	F. M. Sowell	J. H. Gleason	103	115	No			None	3 Weekly	No	Yes	No
Hopkinton, Mass.	J. F. Chisholm	H. Lake, M.D.	40	115	No			None	No	Yes	No	No
Hopkinton, Mass.	H. S. Owen	H. A. Tobey	148	412	Yes	890	1,000	None	1 Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes
Hopewell, Shrewsbury P. O., Pa.	A. S. Boyd	M. F. Jones	15	1				None	No	No	Yes	No
Hubbardtown, Vt.	G. Holmes	H. C. Rumsey	100	15	No	2	1,500	None	2 Weekly	Yes	Yes	No
Hudson, N. Y.	H. R. Schermernhorn	L. F. Langley	100	1,240	Yes	1,300	1,500	None	2 Weekly	Yes	No	No
Indianapolis, Ind.	Wm. Marrow	M. R. Barnard	441	9,875	Yes	1,600		21,000	Daily	Yes	Yes	No
Ionia, Mich.	C. Webster	Joe. L. Hudson	62	3-0	Yes	None		None	No	No	No	No
Jacksonville, Fla.	N. K. Moxley	A. M. Van Dyke	62	125	No			None	No	No	Yes	Yes
Jacksonville, Fla.	A. M. Jones	A. M. Jones	18					None	No	No	No	No
Jacksonville, Ill.	W. H. DeMotte	T. G. Taylor	100		Yes			None	Daily	Yes	No	No
Jamestown, Wis.	E. S. Barrow	F. S. Lawrence	100		Yes			None	2 Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
Jersey City, N. J.	Geo. W. Clethrew	J. B. Pendleton	824	2,300	Yes	630	400	None	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes
Jonestown, Pa.	T. C. Pinger	J. J. Sanderson	30	91	Yes			None	Weekly	Yes	No	No
Johannston, Pa.	C. Meridan, M.D.	C. Moses	75	250	Yes	115		None	3 Weekly	Yes	No	No
Kalamazoo, Mich.	D. O. Roberts	D. H. Pethry	110	1,300	Yes	50	100	None	Daily	No	No	No
Kanawha Salina, West Va.	J. M. Hill	F. M. McKiernan	94		Yes			None	No	No	No	No
Kittanning, Pa.	R. W. Smith	R. H. Carter	100		Yes	100		None	No	No	No	No
Laconia, N. H.	F. W. Reeves	R. H. Carter	100	250	Yes	110	50	None	No	No	No	No
Ladyville College, Pa.	Wm. Wiley, Jr.	Y. Gubelus	135		Yes	390		None	No 2 Weekly	Yes	Yes	4
Lancaster, Pa.	D. S. Bursk	A. A. Hubby	166	150	Yes	2,500		None	Daily	No	Yes	65
Leeds, Me.	S. S. Lathrop	Wm. R. Millet	51	40				None	No	Yes	No	No
Lancaster, Mass.	H. A. White	A. M. Stone	60					None	4	Yes	No	2
Lancaster, Mass.	Robert Burr	Chas. S. Houghton	140	115	No	None		None	1 Weekly	Yes	Yes	5
Lancaster, Mass.	Robert Burr	Chas. S. Houghton	140	115	No	None		None	6 Weekly	No	Yes	5

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Lewiston, Me.	G. W. Graceison.	J. Garner.	276	\$1 134	Yes					None		Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Lima, Ohio.	J. R. Hughes.	H. Parham.	99	500	Yes					None	No	Weekly			Yes	Yes		No	
Little Britain, N. Y.	J. R. Wallon.	W. H. Denniston.	35	100	No					None	No	Weekly			Yes	Yes		No	
Liverpool, N. S.	R. M. Cobb.	E. C. Parker.	42	66	Yes	90	\$30			None	Yes	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	2
Lockland, Ohio.	J. F. Merrill.	G. Hartwell.	80	513	Yes	100	100			None	Yes	2 weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No		Yes	
Lowell, Mass.	Wm. W. Sherman.	Geo. E. Lovejoy.	35	2,222	Yes	600	525			None	10	1 daily	Yes	Yes	Yes	No		Yes	
Lucas, Ohio.	J. Gelter.	B. F. McBridge.	80	18	No	None				None	2	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No		Yes	
Lyconing Creek, Pa.	Wm. G. Kase.	J. Richard Botts.	42	19						None	13	2 weekly	No	Yes	Yes			Yes	5
Lynn, Mass.	J. Wood.	H. L. Porter.	113	1,450	Yes	257	500			None	8	2 monthly	Yes	Yes	No			No	
Lyons Brook, N. S.	J. Grant, Jr.	T. A. Grant.	65	340	Yes					None	6	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes			No	
Madison, Wis.	J. E. Mosely.	G. E. Morrow.	45	2						None	6	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes			No	
Malone, N. Y.	J. J. Gilbert.	M. S. Parmelee.	68	980	Yes					None	3	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes			No	
Manchester, N. H.	J. P. Newell.	M. P. Hall.	195	980	Yes	114	100			None	No	1 daily	No	Yes	Yes			No	30
Mansfield, Ohio.	H. Colby.	C. B. Jameson.	34	400	Yes	294	400			None	No	2 weekly	No	Yes	Yes			No	1
Masblehead, Mass.	J. F. Clotthey.	C. P. Wellman.	68	400	Yes	37	30			None	1	2 monthly	No	Yes	Yes			No	
Masland, N. S.	B. Smith.	E. Lynch.	41	15	No	36	16			None				Yes	Yes			No	
Marion, Va.	J. A. Kelly.	J. S. Slaters.	30			150	80			None		Daily	Yes	Yes	Yes			No	
Masillon, Ohio.	J. K. Merwin.	E. A. Jones.	124	400	Yes					None	6	2 weekly	No	Yes	Yes			Yes	30
Mercer, Pa.	R. M. J. Zahniser.	A. P. Burwell.	95	340	Yes					None		2 monthly	Yes	Yes	No			No	
Merrimack, N. S.	D. Mitchell.	J. Mitchell.	30							None	Yes	Weekly	No	Yes	No			No	
Middletown, Conn.	H. E. Sawyer.	Dr. J. A. Pelton.			No	1,000				None	Yes	Weekly	No	Yes	No			No	
Middletown, Pa.	E. B. Stehman.	A. H. Beane.	47	200	Yes					None	Yes	Weekly	No	Yes	No			No	
Milford, Mass.	E. B. Platt.	A. N. Clark.	70	100	Yes					None	Yes	Weekly	No	Yes	No			No	
Milwaukee, Wis.	S. A. Cook.	L. B. Hart.	90	450	Yes	None				None	6	Weekly	No	Yes	No			No	
Minneapolis, Minn.	S. S. Fuller.	J. O. Myers.	250	150	Yes	None	38			None	No	Daily	Yes	Yes	No			No	
Mount Jackson, Pa.	W. O. Hickey.	P. Bell.	200	1,500	Yes	96	60			None	2	Weekly	No	Yes	No			No	
Mount Jory, Pa.	Wm. M. Taylor.	Pres. Owens.	98		No	64				None	6	Weekly	No	Yes	No			Yes	No
Mount Kisco, N. Y.	J. Kenning.	S. C. Sherwood.	44		No					None	100	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes			Yes	6
Mount Vernon, Ohio.	F. T. Kelliff.	H. C. Taylor.	90	352	No					None	100	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes			No	
Montclair, N. J.	Z. E. Morris.	J. H. Wheeler.	163		Yes		5,200			30,000	Yes	Weekly	Yes	Yes	No			No	
Montreal, Can.	F. B. Claton.	A. Sandham.	616	3,880	Yes	2,277	5,200			30,000	Yes	Weekly	No	Yes	No			No	
Mytic, Conn.	T. E. Parker.	L. A. Morgan.	131	99	Yes	498	300			30,000	1	3 weekly	Yes	Yes	No			Yes	

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Pittsburg, Pa.	H. K. Porter	T. K. Cree	1,000	\$6,350	Yes	1,000	\$1,500			None	12	2 daily	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	
Plantville, Conn.	E. W. Twichell	L. C. Hull	173	450	Yes	400	400			None	No	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	
Plainfield, N. J.	C. W. McCutchen	T. C. Aldrich	216	1,537	Yes	650	700			None	8	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Portage City, Wis.	T. Yale	J. Darling	28	75	Yes	10				None	No	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Port Hope, Prov. of Ont., Can.	Wm. Craig, Jr.	N. Hockin	50		Yes	50				None	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Port Huron, Mich.	E. H. Brooks	R. S. Patterson	80		Yes					None	No	not yet	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Poughkeepsie, N. Y.	Mitchell Dawning	Geo. W. Candee	208	1,450	Yes	524				16,000	No	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	
Poughkeepsie, N. Y.	J. Russell	Geo. W. Shaylor	430	2,000	Yes	124	100			None	3	2 weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	
Portsmouth, Me.	M. S. Campbell	Wm. I. Hoyt	210	1,300	Yes	750	1,500			None	1	Dy & w y	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Portsmouth, Ohio.	J. Hendrick	Wm. H. Hott	880	32	Yes	6,100	4,500			None	3	2 weekly	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	
Putnam, Conn.	G. M. Morse	F. Plimpton	123	420	Yes	405				None	No	Monthly	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	4	
Quebec, Can.	H. Fry	Wm. Abert	292	580	Yes		40			None	No		No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	
Reading, Pa.	J. H. Sternberg	W. T. Lewis	80		Yes					None	No	Weekly	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	
Reading, Pa.	B. B. Herbert	D. P. Harden	104	294	Yes	312	560			None	No	Daily	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Red Wing, Minn.	R. Hancock	L. A. Hancock	100		Yes	610	500			None	Yes	Daily	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	12	
Rice, Wis.	S. Davies	C. Duffie	62	477	No	165	100		\$3,000		Yes	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes		
Rochester, Minn.	A. C. Smith	J. D. Blake	110		Yes						Yes		No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes		
Rockport, Mass.	N. Pool	C. W. Peck	50								Yes		No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes		
Rome, N. Y.	G. M. Palmer	R. S. Paterson	70							None	Yes	2 weekly	No	Yes	No	No	No	No		
Rutland, Mass.	E. I. Mills	D. Snodgrass	910	1,200	Yes	300				None	No	Weekly	No	Yes	No	No	No	No		
Salem, Mass.	D. B. Hager	W. H. Whipple	210	1,000	Yes	100	100			None	4	Weekly	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	6	
St. Catharines, Ontario, Can.	Wm. Jas. McCalla	W. H. Allen	71	40	Yes	50	50			None	Yes	Weekly	No	Yes	No	No	No	No		
St. Clair, Mich.	J. O. Wolvin	E. H. Woodruff	89	468	Yes	18				None	No	2 weekly	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes		
St. Johnsburg, Vt.	P. D. Bodgett	G. May	610	1,657	Yes	410	550			None	No	2 weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	6	
St. John, N. B.	Wm. Welsh	J. E. Irvine	258	3,749	Yes	25	200			30,000	No	Dy & w y	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No		
St. Louis, Mo.	A. R. Foote	W. C. Regal	125	2,566	Yes	400	200			5,000	3	Dy & w y	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes		
St. Paul, Minn.	H. Thompson	E. W. Chase	72	445	Yes	431					Yes	Daily	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes		
St. Paul, Minn.	J. McCrone	J. S. Boyne	189		Yes	225	175				5,000			Yes	Yes			Yes		
St. Thomas, Prov. of Ont., Can.	J. R. Rucklenbrod	W. C. Hatcheset	189		Yes						No	Daily	Yes	Yes	Yes			Yes	No	
Salem, Ohio.	J. R. Rucklenbrod	W. C. Hatcheset	189		Yes						No	Daily	Yes	Yes	Yes			Yes	No	
Sandusky, Ohio.	N. S. Wright	F. W. Gill	896	7,000	Yes	3,650	3,000	110-00	85-00		No	Daily	Yes	Yes	Yes			Yes	No	
San Francisco, Cal.	C. Goodall	F. W. Gill	1,120		Yes	1,120					3	Daily	Yes	Yes	Yes			Yes	No	
San Jose, Cal.	G. E. Brand	G. E. Brand	269		Yes									Yes	No	Yes		Yes	No	
Saratoga Springs, N. Y.	J. M. Andrews, Jr.	J. M. Andrews, Jr.												Yes	No	Yes		Yes	No	

Schenectady, N. J.	N. Calin.	R. B. Welch, D. D.	901	760	Yes	None			22,500	Yrs Dy & wly	No	Yes	No	Yes
Scotch Hill, N. S.	Wm. Fraser.	R. S. Blaklee.	92	19	No	None			3	Weekly	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Scotaburn, N. S.	J. McInloch	G. McMillan.	35	13	No	None			35	Weekly	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Seranton, Pa.	H. M. Boies	E. R. Mills.	480	2,794	Yes	500	500			Daily	Yes	Yes	No	30
Selma, Ala.	P. G. Wood	N. D. Cross.	97	504	Yes	1,000				No 2 weekly	No	No	No	No
Shrewsbury, Pa.	H. Latimer	Wm. H. Smyvan	2	26						2	No	Yes	No	Yes
Shippensburg, Pa.	E. J. Torney.	C. B. Pfaher	50	150	Yes	250				Weekly	No	No	No	No
Spencer, Mass.	D. A. Ball.	H. N. Tower.	116	323	Yes					No	Yes	No	No	No
Springdale, Ohio	H. B. Mayhew	C. B. Kufin.	52	700	Yes	296	185	1.5 H		No	No	No	No	No
Springfield, Mass.	O. D. Morse	W. H. Eaton		40	Yes					12	No	No	No	No
Springfield, Vt.	H. H. Shaw	I. O. Spring.	39	35	No	15	45			2 monthly	No	Yes	No	
Springvale, N. S.	Rev. J. Sinclair	D. M. Johnson	3	780	Yes	4.0	600			7 Weekly	No	Yes	No	15
South Boston, Mass.	H. F. Faulkner.	J. M. Fogarty	78	35						No	No	No	No	No
South Derryfield, Mass.	Chas. A. Rice	A. M. Rice	105	35						No	No	No	No	No
South Norwalk, N. S.	Reuben M. Reid	J. Buchanan	180	600	Yes	3.0	400			No	No	No	No	No
Stenleville, Ohio	R. C. Freeman	A. N. Tupper	71	20	No	50	20			No	No	No	No	No
Stewiacke, N. S.	G. W. Perry	J. R. Claves.	58	100	Yes	100	250			1 Weekly	Yes	Yes	No	4
Stockton, Cal.	J. P. Smith	E. E. Cotton.	33	121		80	26			2	No	No	No	No
Stoughton, Mass.	B. Chen z.	J. J. Pitta.	20	12						4 Daily	Yes	Yes	No	No
Sudbury, Vt.	Rev. J. Bridgman	O. S. F. Brown	361	2,621	Yes					Weekly	Yes	Yes	No	No
Syracuse, N. Y.	J. Linow Weaver	J. W. Abbott	29	36						3 2 weekly	Yes	Yes	No	3
Tanquepa, Pa.	E. W. Matthews.	J. E. Jones.	88	650	No	100	150			Daily	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Tadoussac, Pa.	J. McC. Martin.	J. R. Umsted	6	874	Yes					Daily	Yes	Yes	No	4
Tiffin, Ohio	C. Douglas.	C. L. Rhodes	171	1,068	Yes	1.7	1,000			15 6 weekly	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Toledo, Ohio	T. J. Wilkie	T. J. Wilkie	414	1,068	Yes					Yes	Yes	Yes	No	50
Toronto City, Ontario Can.	J. Macdonald	G. H. Morris.	33	Yes						Daily	Yes	Yes	No	No
Trenton, N. J.	J. T. Walling	J. Buchanan	280	1,900	Yes	3,600	3,000			Weekly	Yes	Yes	No	No
Triana, N. S.	J. K. Blair	H. L. Atkins.	20	122	No					12 2 weekly	Yes	Yes	No	No
Union Mills, Pa.	C. W. Dabury	C. S. Reed	56	50	Yes					No	No	No	No	No
Uniontown, Pa.	A. W. Boyd.	G. T. Reynolds	102	275	Yes					Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Upper Londonderry, N. S.	J. Fleming.	A. B. Fletcher.	59	90	Yes					Weekly	Yes	Yes	No	No
Walton, N. Y.	C. H. Phelps.	H. E. Ogden.	30	140	No					Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No
Washington, Cal., D. C., Md	F. H. Wright	J. L. Thomas	72	Yes						Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No
Washington, Pa.	F. Brady, Jr.	J. Alken	84	Yes						Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No
Waterbury, Conn.	R. B. Gwillim	W. A. Fletcher.	76	No	None					Weekly	No	Yes	No	Yes
Waterbury, Vt.	J. J. Colby	J. P. Moulton	83	700	Yes	325	1,000			No	No	Yes	No	No
Watertown, N. Y.	J. T. Moffett	C. F. Gardner.	29	70	No					No Dy & wly	No	Yes	No	No
Waterville, Me.	J. L. Towne.	J. F. O. Osborne.	86	Yes						No	No	Yes	No	No
Watford, Pa.	Yongmans.	Wm. Oliver.	33							Weekly	Yes	Yes	No	No
Welland, Prov. of Ont., Can.	Geo. E. Ricker	Geo. E. Ricker	121	300	Yes					Weekly	Yes	Yes	No	No
W. Amherstbury, Mass.	J. A. Pike	S. M. Griggs.	54	60	Yes	5				Weekly	Yes	Yes	No	No
Westfield, Mass.	E. B. Smith	H. Lyman.	137	400	No					3 Weekly	Yes	Yes	No	2
Westfield, N. J.	J. C. Pierson	E. J. Neale.	81	229	Yes	17	150			5 Monthly	No	Yes	No	No
West Meriden Conn.	F. G. Otis	E. J. Merriman.	250	1,000	Yes	800	1,000	15,000	1,500	2 Weekly	No	Yes	No	No
West River, N. S.	J. J. McLean	D. Miller.	29	Yes	Yes	300				5 Weekly	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Westerly, R. I.	O. Wolcott.	R. F. Latimer.	173	1,500	Yes				500	6 Dy & wly	Yes	Yes	Yes	6

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Weston, Vt.	N. E. Gale	S. Peabody	98	\$18	Yes	\$6	\$3			\$145	No	Weekly	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
Weybridge, Vt.	W. B. Hurlbert	N. E. Parkill	60	11	No						6	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No		No
Wheeling, West Va.	Wm. B. Simpson	A. J. Bennett	330	298	Yes	400	400				9	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No		2
Whitewater, Wis.	G. S. Marsh	W. Cole, Jr.	100	150	Yes	25	25				3	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No		
Windham, Vt.	C. W. Hastings	G. W. Dimick	34		No					None		Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	3
Windsor, N. S.	M. H. Goudye	J. B. Flowers	83	118	Yes	None				None		Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	
Windsor, Vt.	J. B. Farnsworth	J. H. Herriot	24		No					None		Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	
Winnet, Conn.	R. E. Holmes	L. M. Blake	50	333	Yes					None		2 weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	50
Winthrop, Me.	L. Jones	H. Woodward	80	125	Yes	350	500			None	1	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
Woodsboro, Md.	R. G. Barriek	H. C. Hull	96	33	No					None		3 weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	13
Woodstock, Vt.	L. Richmond	R. S. Southgate	105	80	No					None		Daily	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	
Worcester, Mass.	H. H. Merriam	J. B. Adams	754	2,500	Yes	114	115			None	3	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	
Yarmouth, N. S.	F. Dennis	W. T. Starrat	80	75	No					None	8	Daily	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	50
York, Pa.	D. E. Small	J. R. Davis	217		Yes	203	300			None	6	Daily	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	6
Zanesville Ohio	J. D. Warner	G. Fox	335	660	Yes	355	450								Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES AND BRITISH PROVINCES, in account with their Treasurer for Year ending May 1, 1871.

Cr.

Dr.

Money on hand.....	\$3,365 94
Subscriptions for General Expenses received.....	1,966 32
Subscriptions for Journal of Proceedings received.....	308 35
Sales of Life Membership Certificates.....	78 93
Subscriptions for new Associations.....	203 33
Subscriptions for Western Work.....	10 00
Sundries.....	3 40

\$5,986 27

Paid for General Expenses.....	\$2,261 66
Cost of Journal of Proceedings.....	648 93
Cost of Life Membership Certificates.....	510 70
Paid H. C. Riley.....	50 00
Paid J. Vassar.....	50 00
Loaned to "Monthly".....	1,250 00

\$4,771 29

Cash on hand..... 1,164 98

\$5,936 27

Amount of unpaid Subscriptions, May 1, 1871..... \$2,842 75

Approved,

J. S. MACLEAN, *Chairman of Committee.*

Cr.

GENERAL EXPENSE ACCOUNT.

Dr.

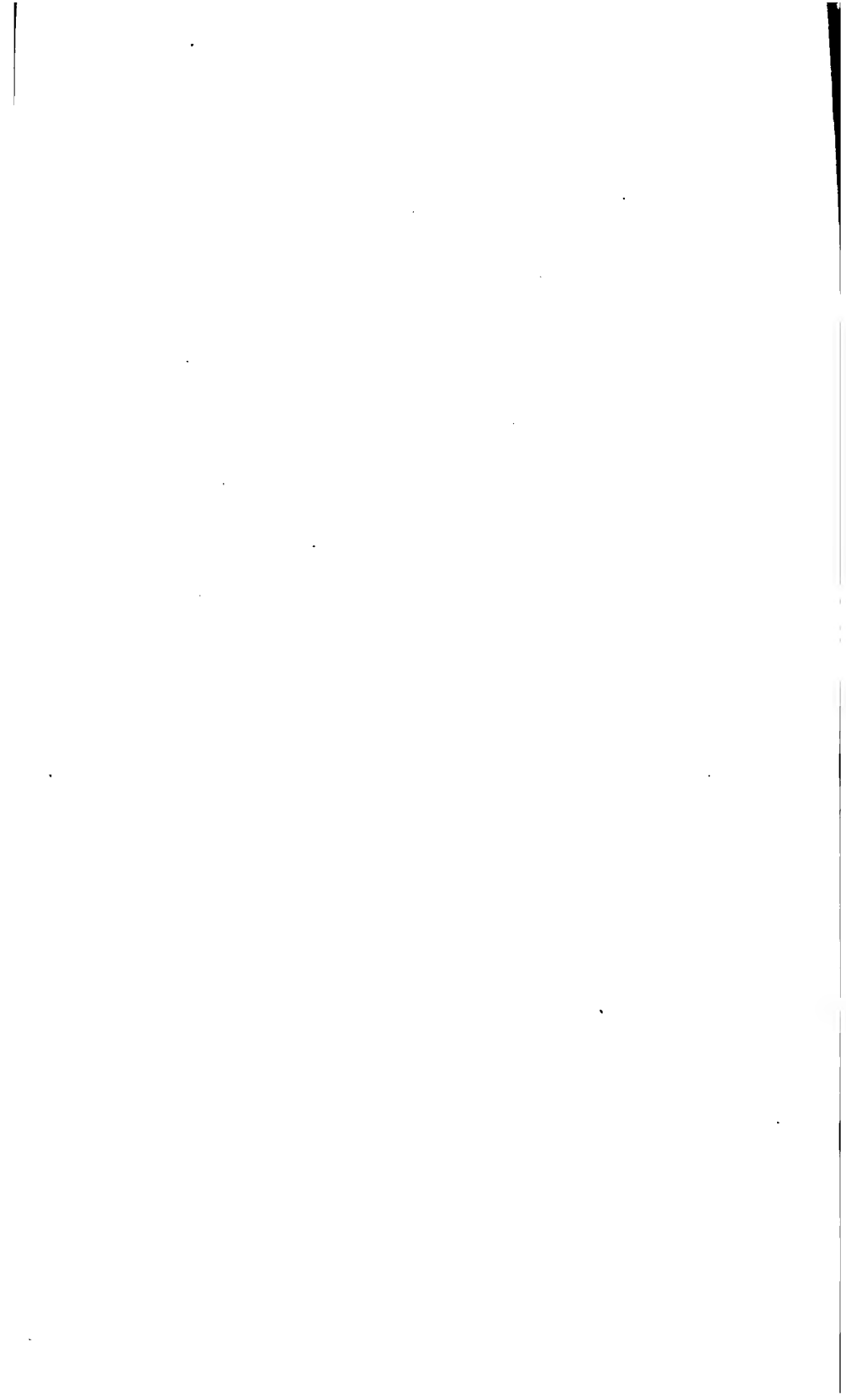
SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.		Printing and Stationery.....	\$438 15
Akron, Ohio.....	\$10 00	Postage.....	231 82
Altoona, Pa.....	10 00	Traveling Expenses attending State	
Amsterdam, N. Y.....	25 00	Conventions.....	354 91
Ann Arbor, Mich.....	3 40	R. Weidensall, Salary.....	875 00
Ashland, Ohio.....	5 00	R. Weidensall, Traveling Expenses.....	183 85
Ashtabula, Ohio.....	10 00	Miscellaneous Expenses.....	167 93
Auburn, N. Y.....	15 00		
Baltimore, Md., (old).....	75 00		
Baltimore, Md.....	30 00		
Bethlehem, Pa.....	15 00		
Bridgeport, Conn.....	25 00		
Brockville, Ontario, Can.....	2 50		
Brunswick, Me.....	16 50		
Burlington, Vt.....	5 00		
Charlestown, Mass.....	25 00		
Cincinnati, Ohio.....	200 00		
Cleveland, Ohio, (old).....	50 00		
Cleveland, Ohio.....	25 00		
Columbus, Ohio.....	20 00		
Dayton, Ohio.....	25 00		
Dover, N. H., (1869).....	12 00		
East Saginaw, Mich.....	10 00		
Erie, Pa.....	15 00		
Fall River, Mass.....	20 00		
Fond du Lac, Wis.....	20 00		
Frederick, Md.....	10 00		
Fulton, N. Y.....	10 00		
Grand Rapids, Mich., (old).....	25 00		
Grand Rapids, Mich.....	10 00		
Greenfield, Mass.....	10 00		
Halifax, N. S.....	30 00		
Hamilton, Ontario, Can.....	16 32		
Haverhill, Mass.....	5 00		
Hillsborough, Ohio.....	5 00		
Holden, Mass.....	10 00		
Jeffersonville, Ind.....	5 00		
Lowell, Mass.....	23 00		
Middleborough, Mass., (old).....	30 00		
Middleborough, Mass.....	5 00		
Milford, Conn.....	5 00		
Milford, Mass.....	5 00		
Minneapolis, Minn.....	20 00		
Montreal, Can., (old).....	50 00		
Nashua, N. H.....	15 00		
Natick, Mass.....	15 00		
New York City.....	325 00		
Oswego, N. Y.....	8 75		
Painesville, Ohio.....	10 00		
Philadelphia, Pa.....	150 00		
Pittsburg, Pa.....	100 00		
Pittsford, Vt.....	5 00		
Plantsville, Conn., (old).....	20 00		
Plantsville, Conn.....	15 00		
Richmond, Ind.....	25 00		
Rockport, Mass.....	5 00		
St John, N. B.....	20 00		
St Paul, Minn.....	15 00		
San Francisco, Cal.....	100 00		
San Francisco, Cal., (old).....	6 00		
Scranton, Pa.....	20 00		
South Boston, Mass.....	2 00		
Syracuse, N. Y.....	20 00		
Toledo, Ohio.....	15 00		
Trenton, N. J.....	25 00		
Wheeling, W. Va.....	20 00		
Williamsburgh, N. Y.....	20 00		
Williamspport, Pa.....	5 00		
Winchester, Mass.....	5 00		
Windsor, N. S.....	5 00		
Winthrop, Me.....	10 00		
Woodsboro', Md.....	10 00		
Zanesville, Ohio, (old).....	10 00		
Zanesville, Ohio.....	5 00		
Cash.....	14 25		
	\$1,966 32		
Less to balance.....	293 84		
	\$2,260 16		
			\$2,261 66

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.

Akron, Ohio.....	\$1 00
Altoona, Pa.....	5 00
Amsterdam, N. Y.....	5 00
Ann Arbor, Mich.....	2 50
Ashland, Ohio.....	2 50
Auburn, N. Y.....	5 00
Aurora, Ill.....	2 50
Baltimore, Md., (old).....	12 50
Baltimore, Md.....	2 50
Bethlehem, Pa.....	2 50
Boston, Mass.....	2 50
Brattleboro', Vt.....	12 50
Bridgeport, Conn.....	2 50
Brockville, Can.....	2 50
Brunswick, Me.....	2 50
Burlington, Vt.....	2 01
Charlottesville, Mass.....	1 00
Cincinnati, Ohio.....	12 50
Cleveland, Ohio, (old).....	5 00
Cleveland, Ohio.....	12 50
Columbus, Ohio.....	2 51
Dayton, Ohio.....	12 50
East Saginaw, Mich.....	1 50
Erie, Pa.....	5 00
Fall River, Mass.....	2 51
Fond du Lac, Wis.....	2 50
Frederick, Md.....	1 00
Fulton, N. Y.....	2 50
Grand Rapids, Mich., (old).....	2 35
Grand Rapids, Mich.....	2 50
Greenfield, Mass.....	1 00
Halifax, N. S.....	2 50
Hamilton, Ontario, Can.....	5 00
Haverhill, Mass.....	2 50
Hillsborough, Ohio.....	1 00
Holden, Mass.....	2 51
Iowa State Convention.....	50
Jeffersonville, Ind.....	1 00
Lowell, Mass.....	2 50
Middleboro', Mass., (old).....	2 50
Milford, Conn.....	2 51
Milford, Mass.....	2 51
Minneapolis Minn.....	2 50
Montreal, Can., (1869).....	12 50
Mount Union, Ohio.....	51
Nashua, N. H.....	2 50
Oswego, N. Y.....	2 50
Painesville, Ohio.....	3 00
Philadelphia, Pa.....	25 50
Pittsburg, Pa.....	7 51
Pittsford, Vt.....	1 00
Plantville, Conn., (old).....	2 40
Plantville, Conn.....	2 50
Portland, Me., (1869).....	20 00
Port Huron, Mich.....	53
Richmond, Ind.....	3 00
Rockport, Mass.....	1 00
St. John, N. B.....	2 50
St. Paul, Minn.....	12 50
San Francisco, Cal.....	5 00
Scranton, Pa.....	2 50
South Boston, Mass.....	1 00
Syracuse, N. Y.....	1 00
Toledo, Ohio.....	2 50
Toronto, Can.....	5 51
Trenton, N. J.....	10 00
Wheeling, W. Va.....	2 50
Williamsburgh, N. Y.....	1 50
Winchester, Mass.....	2 51
Windsor, N. S.....	1 00
Woodboro', Md.....	1 50
Zanesville, Ohio.....	1 00
Zanesville, Ohio, (old).....	5 50
Sales.....	8 50
	\$318 35
Loss to balance.....	340 58
	\$648 93

Printing and Publishing.....	\$535 15
Reporter.....	100 00
Postage, &c.....	13 78

Since the 1st of May, 1871, to which time these accounts are made up, a number of subscriptions have been paid which must appear in next year's account. Also received, from Songs of Devotion, \$204.44.



ASSOCIATIONS WHICH DID NOT FORMALLY REPORT AT WASHINGTON.

MAINE.

Andover,
Bangor,
Bay City,
Dover,
Freeport,
Fryeburg,
Gorham,
Gray,
Mechanics Falls,
Richmond,
Saccarappa,
Saco,
Sunderland,
Skowegan,
Wiscasset

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Claremont,
Canterbury,
Centre Sandwich,
Concord,
Dover,
Farmington,
Franklin,
Goshen,
Great Falls,
Meriden,
New Market,
Portsmouth,
Salmon Falls,
Sandwich,
Wilton.

VERMONT.

Bradford,
Berlin,
Bridgeport,
Bristol,
Chester,
East Middlebury,
Fairfax,
Johnstown,
Ludlow,
Lincoln,
Manchester,
Middletown,
Middlebury,
Mt. Holly,
Montpelier,
North Bennington,
Orwell,
Pittsford,
Poultney,
Rutland,

Shoreham,
South Royalton,
Salisbury,
Stowe,
Townsend,
Underhill Centre,
Vergennes,
West Brattleboro,
Wilmington,
Winoski,
West Rutland.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Ashland,
Athol,
Ballardvale,
Belchertown,
Beverly,
Brookfield,
Barre,
Chicopee,
Cambridge,
East Gloucester,
East Hampton,
East Somerville,
East Boston,
East Cambridge,
Farmington,
Foxboro,
Heath,
Hadfield,
Hyde Park,
Hubbardstown,
Lawrence,
Lynn,
Malden,
Medford,
Medway,
Middleboro,
Northampton,
Newburyport,
Newton Corner,
New Ipswich,
North Bridgewater,
North Wrentham,
Plymouth,
Riverdale,
Reading,
Rutland,
Somerville,
Sandwich,
South Hadley,
South Weymouth,
South Danvers,
Saxonville,

Taunton,
Webster,
Wellsby,
Whitensville,
Warren,
Westville,
Weymouth,
Winchester,
Wakefield,
West Brookfield,
West Newton,
Windham,
Yarmouth,
Yarmouthport.

RHODE ISLAND.

Centreville,
Compton,
Warren,
Woonsocket.

CONNECTICUT.

Brantford,
Danielsonville,
Hartford,
Meriden,
Mystic Bridge,
Morris,
New Britain,
Norwich,
Norwalk,
New Haven, (German),
Rockville,
South Norwalk,
Stamford,
Unionville,
Woodbury,
Wolcottville,
West Goshen,
West Hartford.

NEW-YORK.

Amsterdam,
Batavia,
Bath,
Brewster's Station,
Canestota,
Cortland,
Canandaigua,
Clinton,
Cohoes,
Delhi,
Dunkirk,
Dobbs Ferry,
East New-York,
Fulton,

Geneva,
Greenwich,
Goshen,
Greenpoint,
Hudson,
Hornellsville,
Hoosick Falls,
Jamaica,
Lockport,
Malone,
Middleton,
Nicholville,
New-York City, (col'd),
Ogden Centre,
Ogdensburg,
Prattsburg,
Palmyra,
Phelps,
Peru,
Richmond,
Riverhead,
Rockaway,
Sandy Hill,
Spring Valley,
Utica,
Wayne,
Weedsport.

NEW JERSEY.

Atlantic City,
Bergen,
Bordentown,
Camden,
Dover,
Freehold,
Hightstown,
Hackettstown,
Hackensack,
Lambertsville,
Lawrenceville H. Sc'l.
Princeton,
Perth Amboy,
Rockaway,
South Orange,
Vineland,
Whippany,
West Hoboken,
Hudson City.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Brainerd,
Callensburg,
Cannonsburg,
Clarion,
Candor,
Carbondale,
Centre,
Clearfield,
Corry,
Chester,
Downington,
East Whiteland,
Franklin,
Germantown,

Greenville,
Great Bend,
Greenburg,
Hanover,
Harrisonville,
Hollidaysburg,
Kingston,
Kittanning,
Lawrenceville,
Lincolnville,
Mill Creek,
McKeisport,
Meadville,
Nazareth,
N. E. Parkersburg,
Parker's Landing,
Renova,
Scranton,
Sunburg,
Tyrone,
Towanda,
Titusville,
Temperanceville,
Williamsport,
Wilkinsburg,
Warren,
Westfield,
Wyrtemburg.

MARYLAND.

Annapolis,
Cumberland,
Frederick City,
Harrisonville,
Lutherville,
Mechanicstown.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

East Washington,
Howard University,
Washington.

VIRGINIA.

Charlottesville,
Petersburg,
Richmond,
Norfolk,
Washington College.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Goldsboro,
Raleigh.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Abbeville,
Cokesberry,
Charleston, (col'd),
Florence,
Greenville,
Hio,
Hamilton,
Newbury,
Sumpter,
Spartansburg,
Wingsburg,

Yorkville,
Winnisboro.

WEST VIRGINIA.

Clarksburg,
Charlestown,
Malden,
Morgantown.

ALABAMA.

Montgomery,
Mobile,
Opelek (Lee Co.),
Opeleka (Russell Co.),
Salem.

MISSISSIPPI.

Columbus.

OHIO.

Ashtabula,
Bellair,
Canton,
Chillicothe,
Columbus,
Columbiana,
Chardon,
Circleville,
Delaware,
East Liverpool,
Fremont,
Geneva,
Hamilton,
Lancaster,
Lexington,
Middletown,
Mt. Vernon,
Mt. Gilead,
Newburg,
Ravenna,
Ripley,
Salem,
Shelby,
Springfield,
Sheffield,
Trenton,
Urbana,
Warren,
Xenia,
Youngstown.

INDIANA.

Aurora,
Crawfordsville,
Delphi,
Franklin,
Greencastle,
Gre-nfield,
Hanover,
Howard,
Jeffersonville,
Lafayette,
Mishawaka,
New Albany,

Peru,
Richmond,
South Bend.

ILLINOIS.
Arcola,
Batavia,
Bloomington,
Brimfield,
Carbondale,
Champaign,
Clinton,
Freeport,
Fairburgh,
Galesburg,
Henepin,
Lincoln,
Mendota,
Monmouth,
Morris,
Macomb,
Olney,
Princeville,
Peoria,
Pontiac,
Quincey,
Rockford,
Rock Island,
Springfield,
St. Charles,
Shawneetown,
Shelbyville,
Washburn,
Wilmington,

KENTUCKY.
Louisville,
Louisville, (German.)
Lexington,
Shelbyville.

TENNESSEE.
Greenville,
Knoxville.

GEORGIA.
Savannah.

MISSOURI.
Holden,
Hannibal,
Kirksville,
Macon,
Springfield,
Sedalia,
Warrensburg.

TEXAS.
Rockport.

KANSAS.
Atchison,
Junction,
Leavenworth,

Lawrence,
Manhattan.

NEBRASKA.
Brownsville,
Kansas City,
Nebraska City,
Tremont.

IOWA.
Boonsboro,
Council Bluff,
Clinton,
Des Moines,
Decora,
Eddyville,
Fort Dodge,
Iowa City,
Jefferson,
Keokuk,
Marion,
Muscatine,
Monticello,
Mt. Vernon,
Marshalltown,
Montana,
Oscalooza,
Ottumway,
Tabor,
West Branch,
Wilton,
Winterset,
Waterloo.

WISCONSIN.
Beaver Dam,
Fond du Lac.

MICHIGAN.
Adrian,
Allegan,
Bay City,
Battle Creek,
Corunna,
Eaton Rapids,
Greenville,
Hillsdale,
Holly,
Ionia,
Jackson,
Monroe,
Marshall,
Marquette,
Pontiac,
Lansing Normal Sch'l,
Union City,
Ypsilanti.

MINNESOTA.
Anoka,
Austin,
Duluth,
Hastings,
Mankato,

Winona.

OREGON.
Portland.

COLORADO.
Grass Valley,
Marysville.

CANADA.
Galt,
Kingston,
London,
Oshawa,
Peterboro,
Paris,
Perth,
Princeton,
Stratford,
Sherbrook,
Woodstock,
Whitby.

NOVA SCOTIA.
Albion Mines,
Baddeck,
Brookland,
Canard,
Clifton,
Churchville,
Durham,
Fishers Grant,
Faneuil Hall,
Guysborough,
Hermon Church,
Hopewell,
Kentaville,
Loading Ground,
Lower Barney's River,
Marshville,
Middle Stewiacke,
Middle Musquodoboit,
Meaghers Grant,
Musquodoboit Harbor,
Marshy Hope,
Maitland,
Middleton,
Newport,
North East Margaree,
River John,
Sherbrooke,
Springville,
Sutherland River,
Sydney,
Tatamagouche,
Talmagonish,
Watervale,
Waterville.

NEW BRUNSWICK.
Miramichi.

BERMUDA.
Hamilton Parish,
Harrington.

Reports were received from the following Associations too late for insertion in the tabulated reports :

PENNSYLVANIA.

Easton,
Franklin,
Greenville,
Germantown,

Great Bend,
Temperance,
Washington,
Wattsburg.

ILLINOIS.

Quincy.

TENNESSEE.

Greenville.

Members of the National Executive Committee.

Appointed at Portland, Me., July, 1869, for Three Years.

Located in New-York.

CEPHAS BRAINERD,	- - - -	48 Pine Street
JAMES STOKES, JR.,	- - - -	104 John Street
TIMOTHY G. SELLEW, JR.,	- - - -	103 Fulton Street
ROBERT R. MCBURNEY, Y. M. C. A. Building, (corner of 23d Street and 4th Avenue.)	- - - -	
EDGAR A. HUTCHINS,	- - - -	37 Pine Street.
BENJAMIN C. WETMORE,	- - - -	9 Pine Street.
VERRANUS MORSE, M. D.,	- - - -	249 Carlton Ave., Brooklyn.

Corresponding Members.

Quebec	.....
Ontario	.....	W. J. MCCALLA.
Nova Scotia	.....	JAMES FARQUHAR.
New Brunswick	.....	WILLIAM WELSH.
Prince Edward's Island	.....	JAMES FRAZIER.
Maine	.....	HENRY H. BURGESS.
New Hampshire	.....	J. P. NEWELL.
Vermont	.....	L. W. HAWLEY.
Massachusetts	.....	L. P. ROWLAND, JR.
Rhode Island	.....	EDWIN R. HOLDEN.
Connecticut	.....	HENRY S. STERLING.
New York	.....	JOHN I. PLATT.
New Jersey	.....	CHARLES B. MORRIS.
Pennsylvania	.....	C. C. SHIRK.
Maryland	.....	J. G. BERGEN.
District of Columbia	.....	GEORGE A. HALL.
Virginia	.....	H. W. BEADLE.
West Virginia	.....	ALVORAD F. GIBBONS.
North Carolina	.....
South Carolina	.....	V. C. DIBBLE.
Kentucky	.....	JOHN L. WHEAT.
Georgia	.....
Ohio	.....	H. P. LLOYD.
Indiana	.....	M. R. BARNARD.
Illinois	.....	D. J. PIKE.
Missouri	.....
Michigan	.....	FRANK D. TAYLOR.
Wisconsin	.....	GEORGE S. MARSH.
Nebraska	.....
Iowa	.....
California	.....
Minnesota	.....	W. O. HISKEY.
Kansas	.....
Mississippi	.....
Tennessee	.....	LEWIS GODFREY.
Louisiana	.....	A. H. NELSON.
Alabama	.....
Florida	.....
		St. Catharines.
		Halifax.
		St. John.
		Charlottetown.
		Portland.
		Manchester.
		Brattleboro.
		Boston.
		Providence.
		Bridgeport.
		Poughkeepsie.
		Montclair.
		Erie.
		Baltimore.
		Washington.
		Alexandria.
		Charlestown.
		Charleston.
		Louisville.
		Cincinnati.
		Indianapolis.
		Aurora.
		Detroit.
		Whitewater.
		Minneapolis.
		Greenville.
		New Orleans.

Cont

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

Young Men's Christian Associations

OF THE

UNITED STATES AND BRITISH PROVINCES,

HELD AT LOWELL, MASS.,

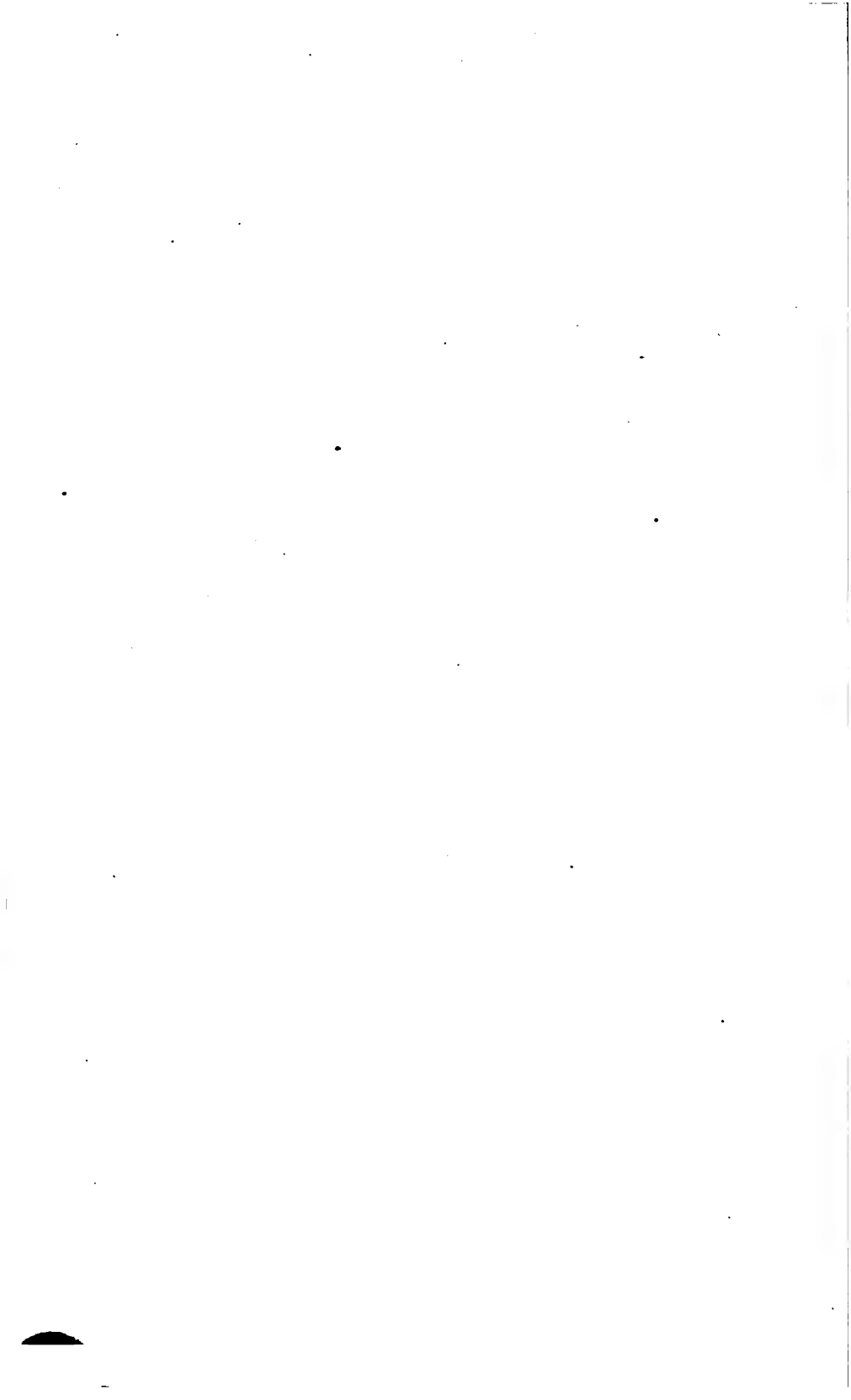
JUNE, 1872.



New York:

PUBLISHED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

1872.



PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

Young Men's Christian Associations

OF THE

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JUNE, 1872.



New-York :
PUBLISHED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

1872.

III. 9399.2

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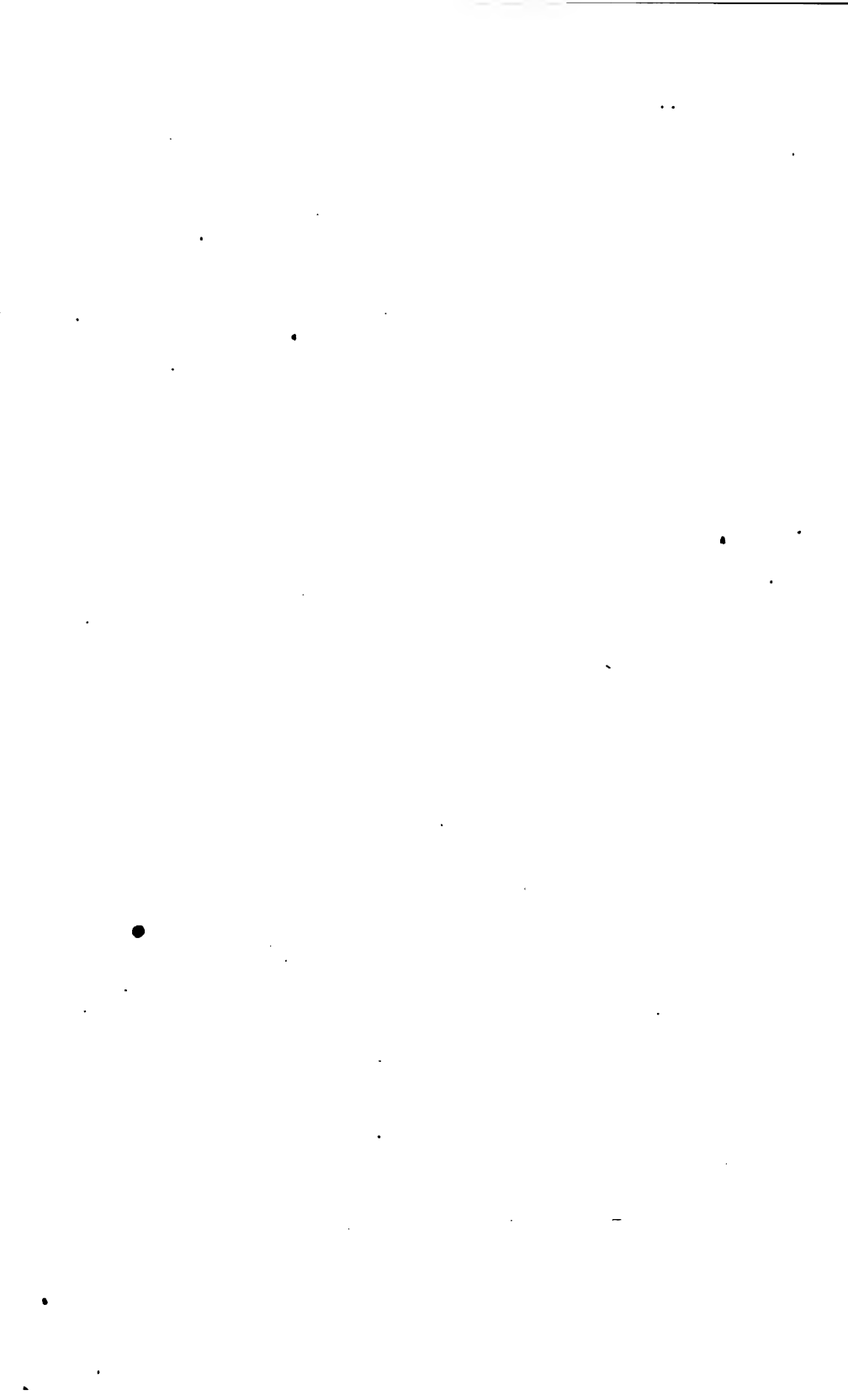
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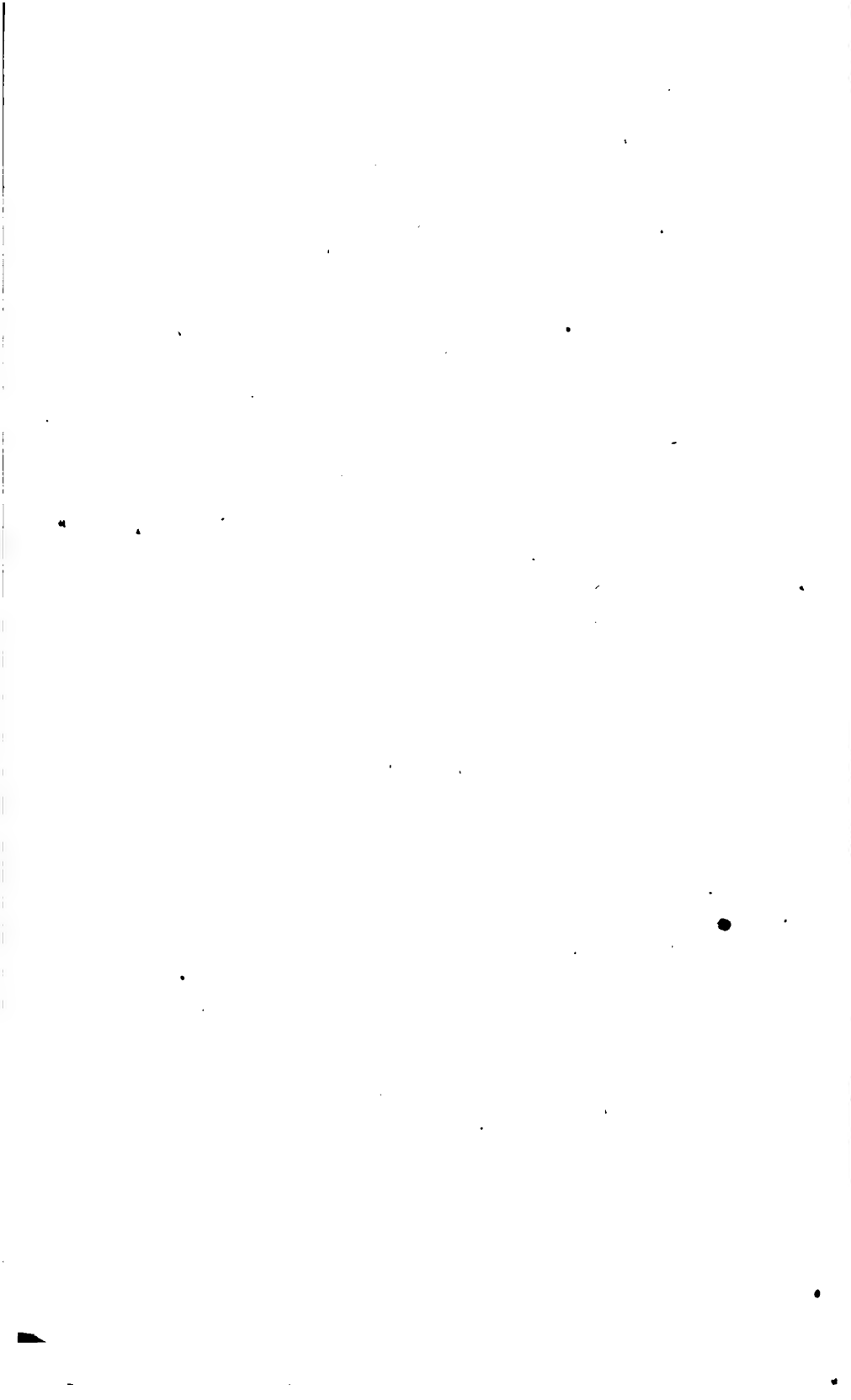
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Circular Calling the Convention.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS }
OF THE UNITED STATES AND BRITISH PROVINCES. }
Corner Fourth Avenue and 23d Street.

NEW YORK, 20th April, 1872.

*To the Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and
British Provinces.*

The Washington Convention of these Societies adjourned to meet at the City of Lowell, Massachusetts, at the call of this Committee. After consultation with the appropriate Committee of the Association in that city, and also with a large number of the members of the Associations in various portions of the Continent, Wednesday, the 12th day of June next, has been fixed upon as the time likely to be most satisfactory.

All Young Men's Christian Associations, entitled, under the Rules of the General Conventions, to representation, are, therefore, invited to send delegates to this, the Seventeenth Annual Convention.

The Meeting for Organization will be held at eleven A.M., June 12, in Huntington Hall.

The following is a summary of the Rules of the Conventions in regard to representation :

1. No Association is entitled to representation, whose Constitution has not been furnished to the Executive Committee—few Associations have as yet complied with this rule.

2. Each Association must also have furnished to the Committee a statement of the number of its Members, showing how many are active and how many associate.

3. No Association organized since the Portland Convention, is entitled to representation unless its test of active membership is that prescribed at that Convention.

4. Representation is based only on the number of active members—those having one hundred members, or less, are entitled to two Delegates, and one additional Delegate for each additional one hundred members; but no Association is entitled to more than ten Delegates.

Under a Resolution, adopted at Washington, the Executive Committee will appoint a Temporary Committee on Credentials which will be in attendance at the Railroad Depot for one day previous to the opening of the Convention. This Committee will receive the Credentials of all Delegates, and give in return their Certificate, which will entitle the Delegates receiving it to admission to the floor of the Convention, and to entertainment by the friends of our cause in Lowell.

A Circular will shortly be issued by the Lowell Association, embracing all matters of detail within their province, such as Rates of Fare, Place of Meeting, Reception of Delegates, and the like, which will render unnecessary many applications for information on the part of those interested in the gathering.

The Corresponding Secretary is requested to fill the enclosed blank, and return the same, at once, to this Committee. To be of any avail in preparing the Annual Report, it must be returned at an early day.

Blank Credentials are also enclosed.

The following topics, among others, will be submitted for consideration and discussion :

1. *How can Association work, in States and Provinces, be more effectively organized, and more successfully prosecuted ?*

2. *Direct religious work, among young men, the first and great work of Young Men's Christian Associations.*

3. *The qualifications and duties of a General Secretary, and in what Associations is such an officer necessary ?*

4. *How should Bible Classes be conducted in our Associations, and for what object ?*

5. *Lectures and Lecturers.*

6. *How can the Associations help young men to resist temptations ?*

Well-known gentlemen will be invited to address the Convention briefly in opening each topic, after which the matter will be open for general discussion.

Some observations will be presented to the Associations, in the *Monthly* for June, which will be issued at an early date, in regard to the phases of Association work which in the judgment of the Committee demand particular consideration.

Let every Association determine, if possible, to be represented

at Lowell by its very best men, who shall personify the spirituality, the energy, the culture, the love for our peculiar work, whereby each Association is willing to be judged. The membership should be closely scanned in order to secure the selection of such Delegates as shall concentrate in the Convention a body of representative young Christians, to whose devotion and earnestness a full recognition will be accorded not merely for the moment, but during the years to come.

It should be our prayer and expectation that the approaching Convention may be the most successful and memorable one of all the series, in its fervor, its high tone, its powerful and permanent spiritual effects, and in its results of good fruit in the vineyard which we are aiming to cultivate.

Fraternally yours,

CEPHAS BRAINERD,
JAMES STOKES, JR.,
TIMOTHY G. SELLEW, JR.,
ROBERT R. MCBURNEY,
EDGAR A. HUTCHINS,
BENJAMIN C. WETMORE,
VERRANUS MORSE,

Executive Committee.

NOTE.—The Resolutions of the Conventions require that the right to vote and hold office be confined to members of Evangelical Churches.

The Members of the Associations are requested to give particular attention to this Circular, and also to that soon to be issued from Lowell. It is hoped they will be found to answer fully the questions that are likely to arise in different minds, and that frequent applications by letter to the two Committees will be unnecessary.

Circular of the Lowell Association.

ROOMS OF THE LOWELL YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN }
ASSOCIATION,
LOWELL, MASS., May 20th, 1872. }

*To the Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and
British Provinces.*

DEAR BRETHREN :—The circular of the Executive Committee, bearing date April 20th, has doubtless reached you, by which you are informed that the Seventeenth International Convention of Young Men's Christian Associations will be held in our city, commencing Wednesday, June 12th, and continuing five days.

The Convention will assemble for organization at 11 o'clock, A. M., at Huntington Hall, corner of Merrinack and Dutton Streets.

The Welcome Meeting will be held on Wednesday evening, (in Huntington Hall,) and it is the purpose of the Committee of Arrangements to carry out the suggestion offered at Portland, and make the meeting of a social character, for mutual acquaintance. The delegates will be welcomed by brief addresses from his Excellency Governor William B. Washburn, his Honor Mayor Peabody, and the President of the Lowell Association, Mr. Charles W. Sleeper. It is designed to have the addresses occupy but a small portion of the time, after which the hall will be cleared of seats, and the remainder of the evening spent in social intercourse.

Our Entertainment Committee will provide for all delegates, in the homes of our citizens ; and, as far as possible, they invite the brethren to avail themselves of their hospitality, rather than go to hotels, as ample provision will be made for all accredited delegates. Brethren accompanied with friends, *not delegates*, will be obliged to provide themselves with accommodations at the hotels, and the following houses will entertain all such at \$2.00 each per day :

American House, corner Central and Warren Streets.

Washington House, corner Central and Church Streets.

The Reception Committee will meet delegates at the depots and conduct them to the office of Committee on Credentials and Committee on Entertainment. Delegates arriving *via* Lowell and Framingham, Stony Brook and Northern Roads will leave the cars at the Northern depot, where the Reception Committee will be in attendance to meet them. Delegates arriving *via* Boston, Lowell and Nashua, from Boston, Lowell and Lawrence, Salem and Lowell, will leave the cars at the Merrimack Street depot, where may be found the office of the Committee on Credentials and Committee on Entertainment.

On Tuesday evening, a Union meeting of a devotional character will be held in the First Congregational Church, Merrimack Street, to which all delegates arriving during the afternoon and evening of that day are cordially invited.

Delegates will not be required to wear badges, but the Reception Committee will be marked with a blue rosette, so as to be easily distinguished by brethren from abroad, as they leave the cars.

The attention of delegates is called to the following

TRANSPORTATION SCHEDULE.

The Committee on Transportation regret that in consequence of the shortness of the time more extended arrangements for a reduction of fares have not been effected. As soon as the time for holding the Convention was determined, this Committee, acting upon the suggestion of the brethren at Washington last year, decided to divide the responsibility and labor of making these arrangements with the Corresponding Members of the several States. From some of the members reports have been received, and the following is the result of our united labors :

1. FROM CANADA TO LOWELL —By the Grand Trunk and Vermont Central Railway Companies at one fare. Delegates taking the Grand Trunk will connect with the Vermont Central Railway at Montreal, where tickets can be had at No. 30 St. James Street. Delegates must provide themselves, in order to secure tickets, with a certificate of their appointment, prepared by the Managers of these roads, and to be obtained of T. James Claxton, President of the Montreal Association. The Great Western Railway of Canada will return delegates free over its line upon presentation of certificate of attendance obtained at the Convention.

2. FROM NOVA SCOTIA.—For arrangements in the Eastern Provinces delegates are respectfully referred to James Farquhar, Halifax, N. S.

3. FROM ST. JOHNS, NEW BRUNSWICK.—The Union Line of Steamers (Hathaway and Small's) from Annapolis, N. S., and from down St. Johns River to St. Johns; the European and North American Railway from Shediac, Sackville, Dorchester and intermediate stations to St. Johns; and the Western Extension Railway from St. Johns to Bangor, will all return delegates free.

4. FROM MAINE.—The Portland and Boston line of steamers will carry delegates to Boston and return at \$2.00 for the round trip. Also, the Eastern Railroad will return delegates from Boston to Portland free. The St. John steamers (International Steamship Company) will sell delegates a round trip ticket to Boston for \$1.00 in excess of regular fare. The Maine Central Railroad will return delegates free over its road.

5. FROM NEW HAMPSHIRE.—The Concord Railroad, with its connecting road to Lowell, will return delegates free.

6. VERMONT.—The Vermont Central, with its leased roads, and the Cheshire Railroads will return delegates free. The Vermont Central and its leased roads will furnish return tickets at its offices upon presentation of proper credentials.

7. MASSACHUSETTS.—The Boston and Lowell, with the roads it operates, the Fitchburg, the Boston, Clinton and Fitchburg, and its leased roads, and the Eastern Railroad all return delegates free.

8. FROM NEW YORK.—The Providence and New York Steamship Company (Neptune Line) will sell delegates tickets from New York to Lowell and return via Providence and South Framingham, for \$6.10; tickets to be had at their office, Pier 27 North River, New York. The New York and Oswego Midland Railroad and the Southern Central Railroad will return delegates free, the latter road furnishing return tickets through its agent at Auburn upon presentation of certificate of attendance.

9. FROM WASHINGTON.—The Washington Association has made arrangements for transportation from that city to New York—of the details of which we are not advised—and so direct delegates to that Association for information.

10. NEW JERSEY.—What, if any, arrangements have been made on the roads in this State, may be learned of Brother Charles B. Morris, of Montclair, who has them in charge.

11. OHIO.—Arrangements on the roads in this State are not completed at present date, and if any desirable ones are made, Brother H. P. Lloyd, of Cincinnati, will inform the Associations interested therein.

12. FROM THE WEST AND SOUTH.—Excursion tickets for the round trip, at one fare, can be found in Chicago, St. Louis, Louisville, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Columbus, Cleveland and Pittsburgh—to New York and return—over the Pennsylvania Central Railroad, upon presentation of proper credentials.

13. ALABAMA.—The Western Railroad Company of Alabama, the Selma, Rome and Dalton Railroad, and the Alabama Central Railroad, will pass delegates for one fare over their roads, and will give free return ticket upon sale of one ticket, and the presentation of a proper credential.

The Corresponding Members from Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota and California, report their inability to secure any reduction of fares in their respective States. Some desirable arrangements East we were unable to make on account of the time of the Convention coming so near the "World's Peace Jubilee," which will bring to these roads all the travel they can provide for.

In all cases, unless otherwise instructed, where in this schedule it is stated

that roads will give a free return, delegates will obtain their return tickets at the Convention, of the Transportation Committee, and it will be in the form of a certificate, to be signed by the Delegate and Chairman of the Transportation Committee, and will cover the facts of attendance upon the Convention, and that full fare has been paid one way.

¶ In conclusion, this Committee desire to impress upon all delegates the importance of providing themselves before starting with the proper credentials of their appointments, duly attested by the officers of the Association they represent.

¶ As further arrangements may be completed between this and the time of the Convention, it would be well in all cases, for delegates to present, but not surrender, their credentials at the office where they obtain their tickets, and inquire if free return tickets can be had.

Any further information will be furnished upon application to

JAMES G. BUTTRICK,

Chairman of Transportation Committee.

The Corresponding Secretary of each Association is requested to forward, *by return mail*, to CHARLES W. SLEEPER, (President of Lowell Young Men's Christian Association,) the names of all delegates appointed, who have signified their intention of *being present*.

In conclusion, dear brethren, we sincerely desire that during the days that shall intervene, ere we meet in Convention, earnest prayers may ascend from all our Associations, that the approaching Convocation may be marked by the presence of the Blessed Spirit.

Our city will afford the brethren who visit us a large field of labor. It has been correctly styled "The great Birmingham of America." We cannot point out to you so many objects of interest as may be found in other places; but we can direct your attention to hundreds of precious souls for whom our Redeemer died, some of whom we trust may be led by your efforts to Calvary's Cross, there to accept a Saviour, who has promised that "If He be lifted up, He will draw all men unto Him."

Trusting that as we together labor and pray, a rich blessing may descend upon the delegates, and upon the city in which they meet,

We remain your Brethren in Christ,

CHAS. W. SLEEPER, GEO. A. WEED,

E. P. WOODS, I. W. BEARD,

GEO. D. HILLS, A. W. WEEKS,

G. E. LOVEJOY,

Committee of Arrangements.

RULES OF THE CONVENTION.

1. The order of each day's proceedings shall be as follows :

Devotional Exercises—Reading of Minutes—Calls for Resolutions, Memorials and Propositions—Reading of Communications—Reports of Standing Committees—Reports of Special Committees—Unfinished Business.

2. Immediately after the organization is completed, the President shall appoint the following Standing Committees, each to consist of seven members :

A Committee on Associations, to which shall be referred all matters touching the Associations in their individual and united action.

A Business Committee, to whom shall be referred all business of a general nature.

A Committee on the Report of the Executive Committee.

A Committee on Public and Devotional Meetings.

But the Convention may refer any business to a Special Committee, or to the Committee of the Whole, at its pleasure.

A Special Committee of three shall be appointed by the President at the opening session, to which all resolutions, memorials and propositions shall be handed, on or before the second day of the session of the Convention, each paper to contain the name of the proposer and the name of the Association he represents ; these resolutions to be at once referred to the Committee without reading.

3. After the appointment of the Committees, memorials, resolutions and propositions shall be referred by the President without action or debate to a Standing Committee, unless the Convention shall refer the same to a Select Committee, or to the Committee of the Whole ; and this rule of reference shall apply to all business brought before the Convention, except such as is incidental in its character.

4. The Convention at any time may resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, and consider in a general form any proposi-

tion or matter appertaining to the Associations, with a view to develop the experience of the Associations and the opinions of Delegates upon the subjects under consideration; and at the close of its discussion thereon, the Committee shall report its conclusions to the Convention for its action; the report to be prepared and submitted for such reference to the Committee of the Whole by the Standing Committee, to whose jurisdiction the matter under discussion relates, unless the Committee of the Whole shall appoint a Special Committee to prepare and submit the report.

5. No Committee shall sit while the Convention is in session, without special permission.

6. All Committees shall be appointed by the Chair, unless otherwise ordered; and shall report matters referred to them, unless otherwise instructed, previous to the last business session of the Convention.

7. All reports of Committees shall be numbered and placed upon a docket, and brought up in regular order in Convention, except such as shall be referred to the Committee of the Whole.

8. No member shall speak more than once on any question, until others who wish have spoken, nor more than five minutes, without unanimous consent; and this rule shall prevail in Committee of the Whole.

9. All motions shall be reduced to writing before they are put to vote.

10. The vote, when desired by five members of different Associations, on any proposition, shall be taken by yeas and nays, and recorded. In such cases, each Association shall be entitled to one vote, which shall be cast by a majority of its Delegates present.

11. Pending any question, it shall always be in order to move that the debate close, which motion shall be put without discussion in this form: "Shall the question be now put?"

12. The Convention may at any time suspend the rules for a specified object, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

13. The members of the Executive Committee, and the Corresponding Members thereof, shall be entitled to seats in the Convention as Delegates.

Proceedings of the Convention.

FIRST DAY.

LOWELL, MASS., *June 12th*, 1872.

THE Seventeenth Annual Convention of the Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces, met in Huntington Hall, and was called to order at 11 A. M., in the absence of the President of the last Convention, by the First Vice-President of the last Convention, L. P. Rowland, of Boston. H. A. Sherwin, of Cleveland, Ohio, was elected Temporary Secretary. After prayer by Geo. A. Hall, of Washington, the Convention sang

"All Hail the Power of Jesus Name."

Rev. D. Henry Miller, D.D., of Lowell, read part of the 25th chapter of St. Matthew. The Convention then sang

"Christian Welcome."

The Chairman then read the following letter, as follows :

PHILADELPHIA, *June 10*, 1872.

Dear Brethren of the Convention :—The meeting at Lowell has been on my heart for some time, and I have longed to strike hands with you again in Christian fellowship and work ; but I regret to find that the condition of my health is such as to prevent my coming to the Convention, and with a reluctance that must be felt to be understood, I am compelled to give up the joy of greeting you as anticipated.

Scattered as are our homes, over all this great continent, and confined by the duties of each day, we see but little of each other, so that it has been a sweet privilege to make an annual pilgrimage to some mount of communion and sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

Some of us date our best usefulness from the holy hours spent in interchange of plans and mingling thus in prayer. Many who in all probability would never have known each other on earth, have become friends, and *life long* helpers *through* the blessed Conventions that brought them together.

Great as has been the results of past Conventions, I pray that the Convention this year may be the best ever held ; that each delegate may be led by the spirit of God, and that heavenly wisdom, and *that alone*, may direct to such measures as shall build up and strengthen the Associations now in existence, and bring into life so many new organizations that a new spirit and wonderful power will

rest upon all our future work. Why not a blessing upon our entire land from the days to be spent together in conference and prayer of a thousand Christian hearts?

Look for it dear brethren. Ask for it. *Work* for it.

Yours in toil and love,

JNO. WANAMAKER.

L. P. Rowland, of Boston, the Chairman, delivered a brief and stirring address.

H. Thane Miller, of Cincinnati, then offered prayer, and

"Sow in the Morn thy Seed"

was sung by the Convention.

Alfred Sandham, of Montreal, offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That a Committee of seven be appointed to examine the credentials of Delegates and Corresponding Members, and prepare a list of the same.

The following Committee was appointed : Alfred Sandham, Montreal ; I. W. Beard, Lowell, Mass. ; W. R. Lambert, Emory, Va. ; Jacob K. Waltz, New Albany, Ind. ; H. P. Adams, Dayton, Ohio ; O. E. Blunt, Nashua, N. H. ; James Meldrum, Washington.

The rules of the last Convention were then, on motion of W. Anderson, of Toronto, adopted for the guidance of this Convention until otherwise ordered.

J. H. Cheever, of Cincinnati, offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That a temporary Committee on Business be appointed, consisting of seven members, to whom all matters of business shall be referred until a permanent organization shall have been effected.

The following were appointed : John H. Cheever, Cincinnati, O. ; Charles B. Morris, Montclair, N. J. ; George W. Beach, Waterbury, Conn. ; James K. Blair, Truro, N. S. ; B. D. Wishart, Hanover, Ind. ; L. A. Bishop, Bristol, R. I. ; James H. Franklin, Selma, Ala.

F. H. Smith, of Washington, offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That a Committee consisting of one delegate from each State, District, Territory and Province represented, be appointed to nominate permanent officers.

The resolution was adopted, and the Chair was, on motion of Alfred Sandham, Montreal, empowered to fill vacancies in the Committee.

The following Committee were appointed : F. H. Smith, Washington, D. C. ; S. J. Lincoln, Baltimore, Md. ; Wm. M. Martin,

Brooklyn, N. Y. ; Wm. H. Irwin, Wheeling, W. Va. ; A. J. Howe, Montpelier, Vt. ; F. W. Hales, Charlottetown, P. E. I. ; M. H. Goudge, Windsor, N. S. ; E. T. C. Knowles, St. John, N. B. ; Geo. A. Young, Hamilton, Ont. ; L. A. Bishop, Bristol, R. I. ; R. K. Remington, Fall River, Mass. ; John Horner, Grand Rapids, Mich. ; Dabney Carr, Bridgeport, Conn. ; C. C. Lathrop, Newark, New Jersey ; H. G. O. Cary, Zanesville, Ohio ; E. W. Chase, St. Paul, Minn. ; C. M. Bailey, Winthrop, Me. ; C. E. Chichester, Columbia, S. C. ; James Baylis, Montreal ; H. L. McKee, Selma, Ala. ; F. W. Reeves, Laconia, N. H. ; R. Weidensall, Omaha, Neb. ; E. C. Mayhew, Indianapolis, Indiana ; George D. Stroud, Germantown, Pa.

E. P. Woods, Lowell, Mass., offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the members of the press, the clergymen of Lowell, and other clergymen present, and also all members of Associations not regularly accredited as delegates, be constituted Corresponding Members of the Convention.

On motion of R. R. McBurney, of New York, the Temporary Business Committee was given leave to retire and prepare the order of business for the afternoon session.

During the absence of the Committee the time was occupied in devotional exercises.

J. H. Cheever, Chairman of Temporary Business Committee, made the following report, which was adopted :

1. Prayer meeting to be held in St. Paul's M. E. Church, Hurd St., this P. M., from 2 to 3 o'clock, to be led by Dabney Carr, of Bridgeport, Conn.

2. At 3 o'clock listen to the Committee on Permanent Organization, Bro. F. H. Smith, of Washington, D. C.

3. Reading of the Executive Committee's Report.

4. If time permits take up first topic suggested by the Committee.

Adjourn at 5 o'clock.

At 6½ o'clock hold an open-air meeting in front of Depot, to be led by Bro. R. Weidensall, of Nebraska ; also, at the same hour, an open-air meeting, corner of Central and Jackson Streets, to be led by Geo. A. Hall, of Washington.

At 7½ o'clock, welcome meeting at Huntington Hall.

On motion adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION.—FIRST DAY.

The afternoon session was called to order in St. Paul's M. E. Church, at 3 o'clock, by the Chairman, L. P. Rowland. After singing, J. W. Hamilton, Somerville, Mass., read the 6th chapter of Ephesians, and offered prayer.

The minutes of the morning session were read and approved, after which "CHRIST for All the World" was sung by the Convention.

F. H. Smith, Chairman of the Committee on Permanent Organization, reported the name of H. Thane Miller, of Cincinnati, for President. He was elected by acclamation, and R. R. McBurney, of New York, was appointed to conduct him to the chair.

Mr. Miller, on taking the chair delivered a brief address, and called on Jos. Anderson, of Waterbury, Conn., to lead in prayer.

F. H. Smith reported, as *Vice-Presidents*: John Hill, Boonton, N. J.; C. E. Chichester, Columbia, S. C.; James H. Franklin, Selma, Ala.; W. H. Irwin, Wheeling, W. Va.; Jacob K. Waltz, New Albany, Ind.; E. W. Chase, St. Paul, Minn.; Robt. Weidensall, Omaha, Neb.; Joseph Anderson, Waterbury, Conn.; Jas. Baylis, Montreal; W. J. McCalla, St. Catharines, Ont.; W. B. McNutt, Halifax, N. S.; Sumner J. Lincoln, Baltimore, Md.; Charles W. Sleeper, Lowell, Mass. *Secretaries*.—George D. Stroud, Germantown, Penn.; P. Skinner, Jr., Providence, R. I.; E. T. C. Knowles, St. John, N. B.

The report of the Committee was adopted.

Anthony Comstock, of Brooklyn, N. Y., moved that R. R. McBurney conduct John Hill, First Vice-President, to his seat, which was done.

Edgar A. Hutchins, of New York, in the absence of the Chairman, Cephas Brainerd, read the Annual Report of the Executive Committee, and also the Report of R. C. Morse of his tour of visitation to associations. (See Reports, in Appendix.)

After the delegates had sung the hymn, "Work and Pray," Robert Weidensall read his report. (See Report, in Appendix.)

Peter B. Simons, of Philadelphia, offered prayer.

J. H. Cheever, Chairman of Business Committee, reported the following order of business for to-morrow, which was adopted :

1st. Prayer meeting, from 6 to 7 o'clock, in the Hall of the Association, to be led by E. R. Holden, of Providence, R. I.

2d. Prayer meeting in this Church, from 8½ to 9½ o'clock, to be led by Dr. E. C. English, New Brunswick. Morning Session from 9½ to 12.

First business after the general order being the discussion of the first topic recommended by the Committee :

1. *How can Association Work, in States and Provinces, be more effectively organized, and more successfully prosecuted?* To be opened by J. S. McLean, of Halifax.

Next, the fourth topic :

4. *How should Bible Classes be conducted in our Associations, and for what object?* To be opened by T. A. Nelson, of Toledo, Ohio.

R. R. McBurney, of New York, by unanimous consent, moved the following additional rule for the government of the Convention :

RULE 14. "Members assigned to open subjects of discussion will be limited to fifteen minutes, and all other speakers to five minutes, each," which was unanimously adopted.

C. M. Winchester, of Providence, R. I., pronounced the benediction, and the Convention adjourned.

WELCOME RECEPTION.

The Welcome Meeting was held at Huntington Hall, on the evening of June 12th, beginning at 8 o'clock. The hall had been handsomely decorated for the occasion by Mr. Eno, of Lowell.

H. Thane Miller occupied the Chair. The exercises of the evening were opened by Rev. N. C. Mallory, Pastor of the First Baptist Church, of Lowell, who read from the 3d Chapter of the Acts of the Apostles, and offered prayer, after which the Hymn of Welcome was sung by the audience, accompanied by Bryant's Band, of Lowell.

HYMN OF WELCOME.

Tune, America.

Composed by MRS. SEWALL SHATTUCK, of Lowell.

Welcome, in Jesus' name,
 Ye who would spread His fame
 O'er sea and land,
 From earth's remotest shore,
 All, who His name adore,
 Welcome, thrice welcome here ;
 United stand.

Joy to receive each guest
 Who in His armor dressed
 Our King shall own,
 In Christian union strong,
 We battle with the wrong ;
 Oh ! may the victor's song
 Our efforts crown.

"Mighty Jehovah," deign
 In all our hearts to reign ;—
 Guide Thou our course,
 Thy gentle Spirit send,
 Our hearts in love to blend,
 That life may upward tend
 To Thee, its source !

Then, when earth's work is o'er,
 And from yon vernal shore
 Sweet voices call,—
 Lord, in Thy dwelling fair,
 Where many mansions are,
 Thy wondrous love to share,
 Receive us all.

The President then said,

The Seventeenth International Convention of the Young Men's Christian Associations of the British Provinces and the United States, assembled in Lowell to-day as all of you know, and to-night we meet for the exchange of welcome and of social conversation. I am very happy to announce as the first speaker of the evening, the Hon. Wm. B. Washburn, Governor of the State of Massachusetts.

Gov. Washburn said,

Mr. President :—I wish to say to all the representatives of the Young Men's Christian Associations gathered here, not only from different sections of our own country, but to those from abroad, that I feel no ordinary interest in the work in which you are engaged. And if I can do anything by my presence, or by my example, or any feeble words which I may utter this evening, to give these Associations any new stimulus or new impulse to go forward and do manfully the great work which they have undertaken, I shall accomplish all I desire.

The injunction of Christ to His disciples at the introduction of Christianity—"Preach the Gospel to every creature," has been acknowledged to be binding upon every succeeding generation of Christians. Many of the great benevolent organizations of the day have for their object the accomplishment of this noble work. Millions of treasure have been expended, thousands of individual Christians have given their lives to the enterprise, and yet, so broad is the field, and so pressing the demand, that there never was a greater encouragement for us to redouble our efforts in this direction than at the present moment. But while we have attempted the performance of the first clause of the parting words of the Master to His followers, the second or closing injunction to preach to *every* creature seems to have been forgotten, or perhaps not so sufficiently appreciated as to lead to any systematic effort for its fulfilment. The early Christians, their minds filled with the instructions of the Master, their hearts overflowing with love toward Him, having received a new baptism on the day of Pentecost, undertook to fulfill His parting command. They went forth as missionaries to carry the Gospel into distant regions; they engaged in home work, going from house to house, and piety multiplied itself by individual effort—friend seeking for friend, brother for brother, literally urging the claims of the Gospel upon every individual. May not Christians of the present day learn something from this example of personal effort?

In the year 1835, an enlightened Christian layman in the City of London was led to examine the statistics showing the number of church-membership, and was surprised to ascertain that in the island of Jamaica, with a population of three hundred and eighty thousand, there were more church communicants than in that great city with a population of two millions. While Christian philanthropists had given most liberally to carry the Gospel to every family in that distant island, they were overwhelmed with the fact that in their midst, in spite of splendid cathedrals, the great majority were living without entering them or listening to the preaching of the Word. When they realized their position, they hastened to apply the remedy. A society was formed with the special object of seeking out the destitute and the neglected, the object being not to promulgate any particular form of the Christian religion, but simply to promulgate Christianity itself. The first rule that was adopted was, that every individual who engaged in the work must abstain from the discussion of the constitution and government of the churches, and simply proclaim in his district the Plan of Salvation by Jesus Christ. If we were to examine the statistics of our own country, we should find that in many sections the number of church communicants would prove far less than in some of our foreign missionary fields. We have become somewhat distinguished by our efforts to establish Common Schools and Christian Churches. We believe that the permanency of our institutions depends upon them; but notwithstanding all our sacrifices and expenditures to furnish a free Gospel, more than one-half the people never enter the sanctuary or listen to the preaching of the Word. Less than half of our children are gathered into our Sabbath-schools. The great problem to solve is, how are we to bring the Gospel to bear upon the destitute portion of our community? How are we to cultivate these barren wastes? I answer that you cannot depend upon ministers of the Gospel to do this work.

We live in an age of earnestness and excitement. Men labor with more zeal, with more energy than formerly. There is a deeper interest; and the forces of men's minds were never more alive than at the present moment.

They will not be trifled with by tame efforts. With the pressing demands upon the minister of the present day, it is no ordinary task for him to meet them. With this increasing responsibility in his pulpit, in his study, and the ever widening field in his parish proper, can he be expected to give his attention to this field? Neither can we depend upon our churches to do this work. They may furnish the means, but never since the introduction of Christianity into the world could the church, as an organization and as a body, be relied upon to undertake such a work. But if this territory is to be taken permanent possession of and cultivated, it must be through the personal effort of individual Christians connected with our different organizations. Every church must seek out the barren waste places within its borders. Every pastor must feel an interest in helping to organize a force that shall go forth to take possession of these territories. These Young Men's Christian Associations, planted all over this land, must co-operate and go into the world and bring in the neglected ones. We have become distinguished by our efforts to relieve the outward necessities and sufferings of our fellow-men. They make their personal appeals to us in language too eloquent to be misunderstood.

But the work which we propose has to do with the hidden and unseen. We have erected our hospitals, our asylums, our reform schools, our public buildings to relieve the physical condition of the erring and unfortunate. But let us never suppose that by giving of our abundance to relieve their merely temporal necessities we have acquitted ourselves of our highest obligation. Guided by true Christian love, the soul must ever be made the object of our efforts. But while all will feel interested in their cause, yet they will say there are difficulties to be overcome; and the obstacles in the way are so great that they cannot expect to succeed.

Some say we have no Young Men's Christian Association in our town or our neighborhood; there is no one connected with our church except the pastor, who is ready to engage in this work. But is it true in this enlightened age, in the middle of the nineteenth century, that there is a Christian church in which there is no individual who can stand up for Christ? But then we have no educated men who have been accustomed to present their thoughts in public. And are we to depend upon educated men to do this work? If so, we shall fail. Do we look to men who can present their ideas in the most eloquent and grammatical language? These accomplishments are all well enough in their place, but are not indispensable to the representative of Christ. They were not deemed so for the introduction of Christianity into the world. The honored, the wealthy, the learned of the Sanhedrim were passed by, and poor, ignorant, unknown fishermen selected.

What is wanted in this work is not so much the eloquence of the lips as the eloquence of a pure, spotless life. Not so much the words, as a heart too full for utterance. That poor, unlettered individual who has drank deep at the fountain of life with a heart overflowing with love toward his Master, not only professing, but living up to the profession in his daily walks, will do more to win souls to Christ by his few stammering words, than the combined eloquence of the church. But how is this dormant power of the church to become interested in this work? We have a few theological schools at which are educated a few hundred young men for the special work of preaching the Gospel. We have a few thousand of these men in the field now engaged in this work. These are our organized forces for the great conflict which is before us. When we contemplate, even dimly, the pressure of the great moral demand upon us

even at our very doors, we see how utterly inadequate is the means to meet the demand; hence the necessity of appealing to our churches for volunteers. We look to these Young Men's Christian Associations, scattered in the different sections of the country, to come forward and unite with the pastors of our several churches, and devise such plans and such means as shall be best adapted to secure success.

Oh! could we see the pastors of our churches and these Associations uniting together in every section of the country, we should see these desolate wastes changed into fruitful fields.

There are brought in upon our hands at present, from every quarter of the world, almost thousands daily. The great battle which is to be fought in future years is for the purpose of taking into possession the adequate means to Christianize them, if this country is to prosper, and to become what every true man and woman would have it among the nations of the earth. What I wish to say, then, is this: that we cannot rely simply upon our churches and pastors; the demand is too great, and we must have these Associations. We must have these Lay Workmen. We must go forth and take possession of this uncultivated soil, and not let it run to waste. Let it be done, and you and I will hear the first stroke of the millennium in tones so clear that it cannot be misunderstood.

But I have already detained you too long. Let me thank you for this opportunity of saying a word to encourage you in the noble work in which you are engaged. I do not know how you feel, but I sometimes feel as if we were entering upon a new life; that we were about to throw off the old life, after the flesh, and enter upon a new one, after the spirit. I have no fears, as far as this country is concerned, with regard to its business prospects. We have energy to carry us forward. It is business, business, from early morning till late in the evening. Our business affairs will prosper. Wealth is the great object that seems to attract the attention of the majority of young men. Wealth is well enough in its place. It is very difficult to see how we could get along with many of these benevolent organizations without it. It is as valuable to-day as ever it was, but in itself it is of very little consequence. The simple question is, how is this wealth to be appropriated? The individual who possesses it will be held to account for the manner in which he uses it. We must look to the education and culture of our fellow men. We all love to give our children a better education than we received, so that when they come upon the stage of action they will be better fitted to fill our places. You cannot estimate a man by what he possesses, but only by what he is doing with it, what is the benefit the world will enjoy from it. Just so in regard to a position of influence and honor; whatever one possesses it is the use he makes of it that makes it valuable.

Let me say then, my friends, let it be the highest aim of each one of us, wherever we may be placed, whatever may be our station in society, to make the communities in which we dwell, the families of which we are members, the country to which we belong, nobler, and purer, and happier by reason of our lives.

Hon J. G. Peabody, Mayor of Lowell, then said:

Mr. President and Delegates of the Convention:

It affords me very great pleasure to represent our city in welcoming you to the hospitalities of our citizens, on this your anniversary gathering. I know

the citizens of Lowell who have invited you here, and I can assure you, (of what you have doubtless learned without such assurance,) that they will receive you with a generous welcome. You have left your homes, and have traveled, many of you, a long distance in the accomplishment of what you considered a Christian duty—a great Christian responsibility. You come here, representing various Christian sects, differing widely perhaps on some points of Christian doctrine, agreeing in others; but in one purpose, I feel assured, you are united—the elevation and Christian improvement of your fellow-men.

Sin and consequent misery are everywhere around us. Let us each and all do what we may to lead our fellow-men to a higher and nobler life. It should be our object not so much to make proselytes to this or that particular sect, as to elevate and christianize; not so much to teach creeds as to lead men to follow the precepts of the Great Teacher, Christ. Let us hope, my friends, that the time may speedily arrive when we shall all, of every sect and Christian name, be united in one Lord, one Faith and one Baptism.

My friends, allow me again to tender to you the hospitalities of our city; and should you have any hours not devoted to the purposes of your Convention, we would invite you to visit our schools, our libraries, and our various industrial establishments, in all of which you will be made entirely welcome. Allow me to express the wish that, at the close of your Convention, you may each and all return in safety to your homes, with the consciousness that you have accomplished something for the elevation of mankind.

Charles W. Sleeper, President of the Lowell Association, welcomed and addressed the delegates as follows:

Mr. President and Delegates:—You have been cordially welcomed to our Commonwealth in an instructive address by His Excellency, Gov. Washburn, cordially welcomed to our busy city by his Honor, Mayor Peabody, and I now, in fulfilment of the trust reposed in me, welcome you in behalf of the Lowell Young Men's Christian Association—an humbler welcome, though none the less heartfelt and sincere. As we welcome every instrumentality for good among us, so we welcome you; that together, comparing the notes of a year's campaigning, full of successes and reverses, we may the more readily detect erroneous actions and in the future avoid them, and the more readily and more earnestly seize and control, however small, in the aggressive warfare of good against evil.

Brethren, I welcome you to-night in the name of the Great Master in whose cause we are laboring. In the name of that Master I beseech you to teach us while among us how to obtain a more abiding faith, a more glorious hope, a more faithful and perfect Christian Charity to mankind. If you shall do this, all our labors in preparing for this Convention shall be amply repaid. There is no welcome of earth happier than this I am delegated to extend to you. For the time being you have no abiding city; no distinctions of nationality, dominion, or race; no sectional prejudices; none are for or against. We are one in Christ; seeking a happier and better country above.

Brethren, what other body of men, think you, on the face of the round globe save Christians, can thus find access to that sacred spot we know as home? Yea, what body called Christians could gain access there save those from which we are sure the pure and perfect precepts of the Lord Jesus Christ shall receive useful and practical illustration? You have borne the banner of the Cross onward to victory. We welcome the cheerful faith it has given you

among us. The cause has flagged, and some of you have rallied around an almost deserted standard. We welcome the moral courage and strength it has induced. Some of you have failed in your intentions, and yet not on high. We thank God you are with us to-night, and are not weary with well-doing.

May God bless you, brethren, to gain strength for renewed labors from this Convention. And you, Mr. President, may you have grace to direct the deliberations of this Convention to the best ends. May God be with you and they who are your supporters on your right and on your left hand. May you, brethren, seek strength to discuss the themes before you, on your knees before the throne of grace, and as you seek to labor for Him may you approach that Kingdom of God which is joy, and peace and righteousness.

W. H. Doane, Cincinnati, led the congregation in singing

"Blest be the Tie that Binds."

John C. Hill, First Vice-President, spoke on behalf of the delegates, as follows:

It may not be amiss to state when I first formed the acquaintance of my good friend, the Governor of this Commonwealth. It was a little over five years ago that I met him in the Congressional prayer meeting in the City of Washington. I had gone there as a representative of a district in my State, and I found this meeting was held every Saturday evening. I went to that meeting, and heard this good Governor lead us in prayer. I asked his name. They said he was a member of Congress from Massachusetts, Mr. Washburn. When he left us to become Governor of this State, there were many who regretted to lose him, because he was a noble man and Christian statesman, and they desired to retain him in the counsels of the nation. (Applause.) I am glad to meet him here upon the platform of the Lord Jesus Christ. We are here strangers to each other as regards our church relations. We are here with our motto—"The Love of Christ constraineth us!"—and with another motto—"All for Christ." Our work is to band together in the effort to do good among the young. I have known a little about this work from personal experience. I see around me young men saved and lifted up through the instrumentality of the Young Men's Christian Association. If no more should be accomplished than what has been, we may say it has been well done. We desire that this work shall go forward. We ask for the sympathy of the Christian people throughout the length and breadth of our country. We ask every man and woman who loves the Lord Jesus Christ to help us to carry forward this organization, and to do good among the young. Our object is to have these Associations planted in our cities and towns, and with libraries, rooms and prayer-meetings to invite in the young men who are stalking the streets, and many of whom have no homes. These Associations are doing a great good, and redeeming and saving many souls. I trust our gathering here will put new zeal and energy into us, and that we may go forth to do more than ever before. We want more enthusiasm in this work. We want some of the spirit and enthusiasm of the politicians. I do not believe we can have too much of it. I remember, when a young man, after a great party victory, we got tar barrels and boxes, and had a bonfire. One young man, filled with enthusiasm, brought down his father's farm wagon and threw it upon the fire. We expostulated with him, but he said let it burn. What that young man took hold of, whether in the church or out of it, the thing was bound to go. This is an example of the zeal we

want in our churches among our Christian people. In passing through the rotunda of the Capitol in the City of Washington, you will see an old picture of the Pilgrim Fathers kneeling upon the deck of the vessel with an open Bible, and an old man lifting up his hands, apparently engaged in prayer. If you look very closely you will see, away up on the very corner of the picture, on the end of the sail of the vessel—"God with us." That was the secret with those good men and women of God. When they came to this country, and landed on the shores of this old Commonwealth, God was with them, and took up his abode with them, and has remained with their descendants from that time to the present. And so I say to these Young Men's Christian Associations, and say to those gathered on this platform, and to the friends and citizens of Lowell, gathered on this occasion—GOD WITH US.

The Convention sang

"All hail the power of Jesus name."

At the conclusion of the remarks of the Hon. Mr. Hill, J. E. Twitchell, of Cleveland, Ohio, made a brief address, offering words of warm congratulation to those present on the auspicious occasion. It was a joy for him to be present and stand with others, connected with other churches, on a common platform. There is but one plank in that platform—supreme love to Jesus, our common Master, and the one Redeemer of the world. He alluded to the important work being done by these Associations throughout the country, reaching so large a number that the churches cannot reach. The best member of the Young Men's Christian Convention, he said, is the best church member. He advised the members that if their minister was not with them, to show their faith by their works, and his heart would be turned to them. In concluding, he asked the blessing of God upon those who had taken part in the meeting, as well as upon all those engaged in this good work.

The President expressed gratification at the fact that people from the distant Southern States who had become estranged from the Association were again connecting themselves actively with it, a number of gentlemen from that section being present. He introduced H. L. McKee of Alabama, giving him a cordial and heartfelt welcome to the Convention.

After singing

"We share our mutual joys and woes,"

Mr. McKee spoke briefly but earnestly in support of the objects of the Association. It was a happy privilege, he said, to respond to the welcome of the distinguished officials who had

preceded him. There had been a feeling of distrust in his section, he said, in regard to these meetings, but it had now passed away. When he saw how many have entered upon this form of Christian work, his heart was filled with love to God, and he wished the Association the highest degree of success.

At the conclusion of the remarks of Mr. McKee, the President made a brief address, and the formal portion of the evening's exercise closed with the singing of "Coronation." The settees were then removed to the centre of the hall and the remainder of the evening was spent in a social manner, promenading, &c., Bryant's band furnishing music for the occasion.

SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

June 12, 1872.

A devotional meeting led by Dr. E. C. English, of New Brunswick, was held from 8½ to 9½ o'clock. The Convention was opened with the reading of the Sixth Chapter of Ephesians, by Rev. T. B. Smith, pastor of the Church, followed by prayer by Rev. E. B. Foster, D.D., pastor of the Congregational Church of Lowell. The Hymn,

"Jesus, I Turn to Thee,"

was sung. The Minutes of yesterday afternoon's Session were read by the Secretary and approved. The names of the delegates appointed by the President on various committees were read.

An invitation from Messrs. Low, Curtis & Co., to attend a private exhibition of the "Doré Biblical Gallery" at Urban Hall, was received, and on motion accepted.

The invitation of A. G. Cumnock, Agent of Boalt Cotton Mills, to visit his mills at 5 P.M., was on motion accepted. The Association Rallying Song was then sung, after which J. S. Maclean, of Halifax, opened the discussion on the topic :

How can Association work, in States and Provinces, be more effectively organized, and more successfully prosecuted?

*Mr. Chairman and Dear Brethren:—*This is truly a great subject; just what we all want to know. And yet, how am I to approach it? I would ask,

brethren, at the outset, is it well enough for several hundred young men to come up here year after year talking about Jesus and the love they feel in their hearts for Him, and the love they desire to feel, and to be strengthened by, and to go back to business and then show by their walk, conversation and work that they have loved money-making more than Christ? I contend, that if the hundreds of young men that come up here were all to go home impressed by the spirit they show here, carrying that spirit into the world, they would revolutionize this country in another year.

Is it true, brethren, that we really try to work out the ideas which we profess? Therefore, I say in the beginning, there is a sacrifice to be made, or we will never overtake the work. Our blessed Master came into this world at a sacrifice. He went through it sacrificing. At last he paid the penalty by the sacrifice of His own precious, blessed life. He tells us to follow in His footsteps. He tells us to desire day by day to imitate him in self-sacrifice. Brethren, we take that as the starting point. The more we love a friend the more sacrifice we will be willing to make for that friend. Is not that human nature? My experience tells me so. Well, brethren, if we love Jesus as we profess to love Him *here*, we will make the sacrifice He demands wherever we may be? Are we doing it? Do we go back from this place telling of our Saviour? Do we desire to make this sacrifice, to bring all that stands between us and Jesus' will and put it under our feet? Our money-making, our business is to be subject to our love for Jesus. That is the idea we are to work out in our lives. Why, forty, fifty, or sixty years will end our careers here, and then the light of eternity in His love! Is it not better for the world, our Lord and Master, and our own souls, that we should consecrate every power of mind and body to His service?

Let me give you a fact or two in reference to our work in Nova Scotia. We tried to carry out this idea. Some years ago some of us went to Montreal. We had one Association in our Province, perhaps two. To-day we have seventy-five, all working Associations. [Applause.]

I do not know how many converts there are, but I do know we have scores of young men working for Christ who did not know anything about it before. One helping hand that we had was found in the Secretary of our Executive Committee, honored now as one of your Vice-Presidents. He is a man in active business, but he can sacrifice the business to this work. He never allows anything to interfere with it. He is always ready for the Lord's business, day and night, keeping up the correspondence with all the Associations, giving them encouragements, warnings and ideas of work. Such a man is wanted in every State and every Province, in our Association work.

I need not tell you anything about the work of our General Committee located in New York. I wish some of you knew what they have to do and how noble and manfully they have done the work. You know it well. It is what I call consecration. If we were all like these men how would our work flourish?

The next idea is a regular system of *visitation* of Associations and of communities. Young men in one province hear of the work done in one township, and they begin to long for an Association to bring the young men together.

We hear the Macedonian cry, and we appoint three busy merchants. Not our Secretary, not our President, not our clergymen, but our busy men go out to do this work. Some of you are aware what this work is. We call a meeting in a church, strive to get the ministers to sit on the platform to give us their confidence and have them take part in the devotional exercises. Then

we appeal to the mothers' hearts with reference to their children ; their boys. We desire to let the mothers know the amount of influence they have upon their families, and their boys especially. How many of us can testify to the wall of strength that surrounded us, built up by the mother's hand, the mother's love and the mother's prayer !

We try to speak to the mothers and daughters, and we talk to the young men themselves of the nobility and dignity of this Christian profession, of this Christian work of ours. After we have spoken to the multitude we ask them to leave, and the young men to remain and talk over this matter. I am speaking of little villages, where there are probably two or three denominations. Before the crowd goes out we three begin to sing, and those old Presbyterians accustomed to sing "Nearer my God to Thee" listen, the song catches their ear and they come back and take seats again. That encourages the young men, and we get them down near us and talk right to their hearts. From one of these Associations has sprung seventy-five, and we are establishing more. Every Winter some of us go out from Halifax.

I would advise you to get Brother Morse or Brother Weidensall to visit you and tell you what is done at these meetings. There is nothing like bringing in some new men. For after a while you get into a rut and become disheartened. Then bring in one or two men from some other city. If Thane Miller would only visit every Association in this land during the next two years, he would do incalculable good. (Applause.) Business men should go out whenever they have the opportunity ; and when secular business calls them from town to town and village to village, especially where there are Associations, they should visit them.

I make it a practice to rush into these rooms everywhere I go, and if there is a prayer meeting or Bible class, get a word in. I think our brethren ought to be decided on this point, that wherever they can get the opportunity to speak before these Associations, to do so.

As to a hall and building for an organization, I find it is all nonsense to say, "Be ye warmed and filled," if you don't provide for the same. This telling young men, "I want you to pray and study the Bible"—where are you going to do it, if you have not rooms, so as to give them some interest in it—where they feel themselves masters? You might just as well tell them to pray in the street. They won't go into the halls that are two or three stories up. So it is with the churches. We in every town in which there is an Association must own a building. (Applause.) Then we will have the confidence of the public ; our ground is sure, when we own a home.

We will go on in this noble work. I believe it is in the hands of God. I bless God that we have ever had these Associations. [Applause.]

The Convention here sang,

"Rescue the Perishing."

W. C. Rowand, of Washington, D. C., followed.

The question before us is simply this: "What shall we do to strengthen our cause?" In Harvard University there are 500 students. We organized a Christian Association there amid the scorns and jeers of our fellow students. Yet we struggled and prayed to God, and to-day we have 75 active members, and hope in time to revolutionize the whole of those 500 students.

What is our duty? As we pass down the streets of our cities, we behold numbers of young men sunk in vice and degradation. We must take them up,

and raise them up to become advocates and exemplars in all that is good. Our brethren of the University have established a Sabbath School in one of the darkest portions of the city, and we are going gladly onward.

R. R. McBurney, New York, called attention to the precise point presented by the topic, and suggested that Mr. Taggart, of Pennsylvania, had had large experience in the work of organizing Associations.

Rev. S. A. Taggart, Pennsylvania:

We have spent about four months attending Conventions throughout the State. We have organized about twenty new Associations, besides visiting thirty other Associations, and have held fifty Conventions. This has been under the direction of the State Executive Committee, and I think that our brother who led the meeting this morning struck the key-note when he said, "what is wanted by these Associations is *self-consecration*." Let each individual member feel that they are responsible themselves for the carrying on of this work. I don't think it is the best plan for State Executive Committees to send out deputations to stir up the people with an enthusiasm that dies out like the morning dew—[laughter and applause]—but I do feel what is needed is *heartfelt consecration* to Christ. I beseech thee, therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies and lives a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. We have tried to hold this up before the people; tried to impress upon the brethren throughout the State, that if this work is prospered if God blesses it in time to come, it is because they have laid themselves upon the altar in entire consecration of life and of heart. I could scarcely tell you, in a speech of five minutes, what has been done throughout our State. I do not propose here to hold up the Association, or to glorify it. If it has ever done anything in the hands of God, it is because He with His spirit has used it as an instrument. [Applause.]

Rev. E. P. Pratt, D.D., Portsmouth, Ohio:

In one of the greatest speeches Henry Clay ever made, he used this language, "Principles and not Men." I will amend it by saying "Principles and Men." Principles will not work themselves, however good they may be, whether political, moral or religious. But principles in order to be effective in such a world as this must be embodied in living men. Now that I understand to be our great work as an Association, embodying the great cardinal principles of Christianity. The great living truth we hold that men are sinners lost; that there is redemption for them in Jesus, and that they are worth saving. These principles in the hearts of Christian men, and then those men organized to go out and work.

What will save this world? It cannot be done by preachers. There are not enough of us. We are broken down with overwork. We have to go off and take three months vacation in order to go on.

Lang Sheaf, Cleveland, Ohio:

We want the experience of those men successful in organizing. I can speak in behalf of the Cleveland Association. The result of our work has been the organizing of two Associations. It is putting our young men right into the field, giving them the specific work to do that builds up our organization. If

there is a weak Association in any part of the State we send one, two or three of our live men to spend a Sabbath with them, and this holding up the hands of the young men that are discouraged, plants them again on their feet. In one town, Akron, we find the young men had been paying their own expenses. We told them the Christian community ought to sustain this expense; the result was, we raised them \$600 for their treasury. Another thing is, every Association ought to have a building. For if they have a home they can get the young men to come to them, and when they come into our homes, take care of them.

W. Anderson, Toronto:

I don't think it is wise, on the whole, to organize Associations in villages on the spur of the moment. I think it is well in small towns and villages to feel the way. Have a member for the Executive Committee of the Province or State come into a locality first, then after securing the co-operation of the pastors, call upon the business men connected with the churches. We have got to look for support to the business men having young men in their employ. Another thing, secure the best man you can as Corresponding Secretary. One who is personally popular, and who will not begrudge time or money for the work of the Association. Use the secular press. I think it is a great mine when we can get the papers to take up our Association work and notice our meetings. It encourages the brethren of the smaller towns to see what our cities are doing, and keeps the work before the public. Another thing found very useful is, for the members of the different city organizations when they go to the country towns where there are Associations, to make a point of visiting them. A good many of our members are commercial travelers. We give them a card and ask them to call upon such an Association such a night if possible, and give them an address. For an account of our work give them some of our publications, commend to their notice the Association *Monthly*, something that will keep them posted up in the general work of the Association throughout the Provinces, &c. There is a wonderful power in feeling you are a member of the organization, like the feeling of the "touch" in the army battalion. So it is in this Association work; you ought to keep up communication between the different Associations of the States and Provinces.

H. P. Lloyd, Cincinnati:

If I understand the import of the topic, it refers not so much to the Association as to the organization of the work in the States and Provinces. In Ohio we have the same organization for the State that we have for each city or town, with a regular President, Secretary and Executive Committee for the charge of the entire work. We empower it to put in operation such work. If there was a weak Association it should be helped. If a town where no Association existed, the attention of all the State was turned in that direction, and there an Association must be planted and must be maintained. Now it seems to me our brother, in opening this discussion, gave us one thought that is beautiful. The spirit of love to the Master, which develops in every mind the spirit of self-sacrifice. Having gained that in the hearts of your officers and of every member, then there must be organization that will enable you to put into active operation what we have in our hearts. And to do this you must have something more systematic than the individual efforts of Associations; something more systematic and larger in its scope. I firmly believe that the Associations of

America will never fulfill the object for which God has instituted them, until in every State and in every Province we have a man whose whole time shall be given to this special work of instituting Associations; and when organizing new ones, to go to the languishing Associations, and by wise counsel help them to remove difficulties, show them their danger and the cause of their failure; give them the benefit of larger experience and broader views. It is very easy to get up a little enthusiasm, to last for an hour or a day; but what we want is something to last through the heats of Summer and the snows of Winter. I hope that this Convention will pass a resolution, or take some action looking in the direction of a more efficient organization and a more systematic method of carrying out our work. I believe that so we shall accomplish more than in any other way to advance the object for which this question was introduced. [Applause.]

John Morrow, Pittsburg, Pa. :

Brothers Burnell, Sankey and myself tried this visitation of Associations about a month. We went back to the city of Pittsburg convinced that it was necessary to employ a paid State Secretary; one who was ready to devote all his time to this work. We knew if such a man could be found that brethren in the State had the means, and were willing to consecrate these means, to forward the influence of the Associations.

About the same time Brother Taggart, without any consultation with any member of the Executive Committee, wrote a letter to the Chairman asking if such a work ought not to be entered into, giving himself to that work. He was appointed at the next State Convention. He entered upon this work, and found the brethren willing to sustain him in it. Unless men are willing to give their means to the Master, the work cannot be carried on. Some of these brethren were preaching in this way to heads of manufacturing establishments. They told the men the object of our organization was to make the young men throughout the State better workmen not only for Christ, because better workmen in Christ, but honest laborers at their daily work; to keep these men from spending their money in the grog-shops and gambling saloons, and to make them do their work for their masters on the earth better, because they served their heavenly Father. In this way they were led to contribute their means, and so we were able to employ the State Secretary. I believe the only proper way is to employ a man for this purpose, fit for the work, and pay him liberally. Open your pockets. This money belongs to the Lord. These souls are His; and in that day when we meet above, and Jesus comes to make up His jewels, thank God, we shall find rich men there who have consecrated their means, as well as others who have consecrated their lives.

Dr. George Christie, Nova Scotia :

Brother Maclean, in this discussion, said we must make self-sacrifice in order to promote this organization of the Associations in Provinces and States, and to keep the Associations up. Well, Bro. Maclean told us that, four or five years ago, in Nova Scotia. We believed it, and went to work, beginning in the county where the first convention was held. Where that Association was in existence five years ago, we now have thirty-two Associations, with a membership of one thousand. And that is the result of this self-sacrificing work. When we went home we formed an Association of our own, and we resolved that wherever there was a lodge of Good Templars, or Sons of Temperance, that there an Association could be organized. They can be formed wherever

the people are in the habit of coming out at all. Some of these Associations meet in school-houses, and have been organized in this way. We meet these young men from different sections of the country in town, and talk to them about the necessity of an Association, then appoint a meeting, and we never have any trouble to get volunteers to go out to them for a time. When we sacrifice our time and our money—pay our own expenses—then it will be successful. Some of these Associations are in districts scattered over seven or eight miles. At a meeting at Picton, they organized, since Bro. Morse was there, a County Executive Committee for the better carrying on of the work. At that meeting all the delegates of the different Associations were grouped in Associations of five or six, and they have engaged to visit each other once every three months. We group the others by dividing the county into two parts, with a general Secretary for each side of the county. The other Associations are to interchange with one another once a year.

Rev. N. Cyr, Rutland, Vt., next addressed the Convention.

Erskine Uhl, Poughkeepsie:

At our Convention, two years ago, in Poughkeepsie, an Executive Committee was appointed. Last year we sent an agent three months, and this year we have had a man for four months visiting the Associations of our State. He addresses himself directly to the members of the Association. He spends perhaps two days, and if necessary, more in each place. He calls first upon the President, and gets the names of the members of the Association; visits each one, and learns from them their views of Association work, and what their own Association is doing; he finds very often in those not attending these Conventions that they have a very imperfect idea of what the Associations are doing. He urges greater personal consecration to the work. Then he collects together as many of the members as possible, and sets before them the different forms of work in which our Associations are most successfully engaged. There is this danger in business of this kind, that too much work will be undertaken. And he urges them to work in two or three fields of labor, never entered upon. I know that his labors have been very successful in the specific work of our Associations. We hope very soon to raise enough money to keep an agent in the State of New York constantly, and by that means have a more active and effective communication with these Associations. We want to get our men acquainted with one another; to have a feeling of Christian sympathy, which is far stronger than anything else to bind us together.

The Convention sang,

"More Like Jesus."

The discussion of the question: *How shall Bible Classes be conducted in our Associations, and for what object?* was opened by T. A. Nelson of Toledo, Ohio:

They should be conducted there as in other places. The same elements of success needed for Bible Classes in Sabbath Schools are those required in the Bible Classes in Association Rooms. The first requisite I think, is a man who can effectively lead his class. Nearly everything depends upon the conductor or teacher. It is said "As the teacher so the class is." He should be a man in the first place of undoubted piety; a man in whom the public have perfect confidence; whose integrity is unimpeachable; a man of deep, Christian

experience. It is not enough that he should simply have a good head and a finely cultivated mind, unless he have a heart full of the love of our Lord Jesus Christ; so that he can speak out of the heart as well as out of the mind. In addition to his goodness and deep piety, it needs a man of generous culture. He should be a man whom other men of cultivated minds will feel willing to sit under and listen to. A man of tact, able to say the right thing in the right place. A man full of enthusiasm in his work. We have a man at the West who teaches every Sabbath about a hundred. He devotes all his spare time during the week to preparation for his Sunday work. He knows every member of his class; approaches them personally, shows them that he takes a special interest in them individually, and I think they all feel disposed to come as frequently as possible to the class. He should be a leader in every sense of the word. Now, if we have the right man, and the man in the right place, the work will go on very soon.

Secondly. For what purpose? Brother Rowland asked me what has been your experience? I had to tell him I had no experience at all. But I have been observing the character of these classes, and the attendance. We have tried Sabbath Afternoon Bible Classes and found them a failure in one respect, *i. e.*, in not reaching the men for whom they were organized ostensibly, the young men who do not attend Sabbath Schools anywhere. We found we could work up a first-rate class of ladies and gentlemen who were in the habit of attending their home Sunday schools. The teacher tried it for a few Sabbaths, and said there is no use teaching these men and women—they know as much as I do myself. Unless you can bring in the young men who don't frequent Sabbath Schools, I don't see the necessity of keeping this up.

I think if you will look through the Bible Classes in our Associations, you will find the major part are made up of young men and women who attend other Bible classes. About the same effort that is necessary to get the young men who are outside of home Bible classes in connection with your Association class, would bring them into any Sabbath School in your city, bring them directly under the eye of the pastor of a Church, and near the Church itself. When we do that the work of the Young Men's Christian Association is done. We are simply stepping stones to the Church.

It seems to me, the better plan to be pursued in the conducting of these classes is to turn them into classes for the teaching of teachers, to gather in the Association Bible classes of the Sabbath School workers in your city, the superintendents, officers and teachers, and make it for the time a kind of convention. Let it not be held on Sabbath afternoons, for you want to reach these young men then who never attend Sabbath school anywhere. I think it is much better to occupy that part of the afternoon of the Sabbath in a general religious meeting. These exercises in such meetings will have ten-fold more interest for them than the Bible class. Let our Bible class meet, not on Saturday night when we are fatigued with the week's labor, but about the middle of the week. And then send out young men to the different Sunday Schools on the Sabbath. Take the "Uniform Lesson." Let there be an interchange of thought and experience in studying it. Let them bring to the consideration of each other the plans carried out in the different Sabbath Schools. Let each teacher and officer have the benefit of your experience, communicating your success if you have been successful, and they will carry that to their own Sabbath Schools. We know that one-half of our teachers are not sufficiently posted in the lessons for Sunday.

They have a great deal to do in the week, feel that they have not time to devote to study, and they cannot teach as they should.

I say we ought to turn these Bible classes of ours rather into teachers' meetings. Bring in your teachers during the week. Let their sympathies intermingle; let their enthusiasm but awaken in listening to the success that others have attained, and you will not only awaken an interest and enthusiasm in Sabbath School work through these teachers, and reach the young men generally, but you will secure the interest of these teachers in this work and gain their sympathies and their co-operation.

R. R. McBurney, New York :

I think those who have been active in the Association cause for many years, will remember when the discussion of the question in relation to buildings commenced, that there was not a building in this country at the disposal of Young Men's Christian Associations. Now, sir, it was through the discussion which was had in these Conventions and the Association *Monthly*, that the attention of the brethren was directed to the necessity of buildings for the Associations. If there was need of those discussions, and I think there was need of awakening a deep interest in the minds of members of the Associations on the importance of having buildings, there is ten times the necessity for awakening a public sentiment in our Associations relative to the organization of Bible Classes for the study of God's word. Now I like prayer-meetings, I believe in them; generally attend two every day, but prayer-meetings have not been honored as the Word of God has been honored. Prayer-meetings have been the means of doing a great deal of good, but God's Word holds a higher place and should hold a higher place in the estimation of Christian men. Now I think we have got to agitate this question in the Associations until God's Word takes the place that is due to it. Brethren on the other side of the Atlantic, and our Canadian brethren, set us an example that we would do well to follow in this respect. They never have organized an Association without first establishing a Bible Class. It is important that this class should be conducted in a different way from the manner that it is conducted in Church and Sunday schools. The persons who come into these Bible Classes are with you every Sunday, therefore you have a certain hold upon them. They have been raised in the Church; they are tied to it by a very strong bond; but the very class of young men reached by the Associations and brought into Bible Classes, have no such ties. And I claim that you need a very different class of teachers and a very different style of teaching. I think the teacher's aim in each lesson should be to make all see a present Christ in that lesson for every unconverted man in the class. I have noticed in open-air services in Association meetings, that God's Word comes with an authority to irreligious men which your word does not bring with it. God honors His Word above all His name.

Another object, *i. e.* young men are engaged in Christian work, some of whom attend your class, you should seek to develop them in Christian usefulness; to show them what God's Word teaches, to raise their standard higher and lead them out to larger sacrifices in behalf of others.

Rev. J. E. Twitchell, Cleveland, Ohio :

In behalf of the young men here I want to thank Brother McBurney for his exaltation of the Word of God. There are two classes of young men sought for, if I apprehend the question in this matter, as subjects of Bible teaching.

The first class comprises the great number who flood our cities and have no Christ ; the second class comprises the other number floating in the population, more or less, who are Christians themselves, but want to know more of Christ. And the teaching of all Bible Classes in connection with these Associations should be designed to supply the needs of these two classes of men. I say two classes. The first, to bring men to Christ ; and they are brought there by telling them the old, old story by one who knows this Christ. I say, as our brother truthfully said, that every lesson should hold up the Saviour.

I tell you my friends it is no small thing to bring men within the reach of your voice and of your heart, even if it be but for one-half hour. Christian men must not forget this. I went the other Sabbath afternoon to the branch Association of Cleveland and heard a man make substantially these remarks ; his appearance generally would indicate he had no home culture ; his words were one proof he had no education ; his general demeanor showed he had led a dissipated life, but he said : " Six months ago, half intoxicated, and yet knowing enough to feel the loneliness of this world, I was passing one of your churches one Sabbath evening, with no place to go ; I was a stranger in a strange land ; I heard the minister announce the text, ' Come unto me all ye that are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest.' Oh ! said I, if there is a weary soul on the earth I am. I fell off into a fit of sleepiness, but I carried that text home, and it brought me to Jesus."

My dear, dear friends, if Christ is in you there is a touch of Omnipotence. So I believe that these Bible Classes should be of an entirely different phase from our common Sabbath Schools, where the whole sympathy of the Church and the whole power of the Christian home influences are brought to bear. These two things lead the man to Christ, and lead the Christian higher up. I believe in an educated Christianity. I believe, when things being equal, that that Christian who knows the most of God's Holy Word and of those things that cluster around it by way of illustration and story, is the best Christian.

By request, H. Thane Miller sang

" The old, old story."

After which the discussion was resumed.

F. W. Hales, Prince Edward's Island :

I don't think that I can add much to the excellent remarks of our Brother McBurney, but I want to add my testimony on that subject. I do think that the Bible class in connection with the Association is one of the most powerful influences for good that we can possibly employ. I happen to be one of those few who remember the establishment of the Association in London. I know that they first of all had their little meeting to study the Word of God, and to help each other to speak to their fellow salesmen ; to gain courage to speak a word for Jesus ; that having God's Word, having the sword of the Spirit, they might speak with authority. Oh ! dear brethren, if we want to work for Jesus, we must have Jesus Christ's holy words, so as to repeat them with all power. Our Bible classes want to be conducted not like Sunday School classes, but like the communion of men, all seeking to know the most about God. We shall know Him by and by. Why shall we not know Him now as much as our intellects are capable of doing ? Why not read His Word and try to find out His mind, so as to be pervaded by His spirit ?

Charles M. Richards, Washington, D. C. :

Last fall I said in the Conference in London, " Would to God that the Associations of Great Britain had more prayer meetings and that the Associations in America had more Bible classes." That has been my prayer ever since. We want Bible classes for our own sake. How often has a member had to hold his head down for his ignorance of the Word of God? How shall we conduct them? .

In the London Association they meet at three o'clock in the afternoon and engage about one hour in the study of the Word. At five o'clock the young men meet together for tea with bread and butter. I would suggest that in our Bible classes we take one subject for study. For instance, take the Promises of God all through the Bible and bring them up in your Bible class meetings.

Rev. G. H. Griffin, Milford, Conn :

As another minister I rejoice with those who have expressed themselves here in exaltation of the Word of God. I believe in making this Association a Bible Association as well as a Christian Association, and an Association for surrounding young men with social and religious influences. The Word of God in this day, when it is being attacked by its enemies, ought to be rallied around by its friends as the standard of all authority against the scientific shams of the day. With reference to the conducting of these Bible classes, I think they should not be so much a critical class as a social class for mutual devotion and profit. It will be impossible to find the right kind of men to lead a critical class. The leader should help them along, while in doing so they would also instruct him. We want a number of earnest Christian men in all our Associations, to come together and attempt to bring other young men also to these classes, thus helping them to elevate their interest in the Word of God.

" Rock of Ages " was then sung by the Convention.

Rev. W. M. Martin, Brooklyn, N. Y. :

There is one word in the opening of this question which seems to me should have more emphasis due to it than any other, *i. e.*, HOW should Bible classes be conducted, etc.? Now, sir, while we all acknowledge the fact that the Word of God is less studied individually and collectively perhaps than it ever was, yet the question comes up: How can we secure the interest necessary to success in a popular Bible-class? I have never seen the solution of this question until this season. Brother Moody came to Brooklyn on an invitation to co-labor with us in this work of Bible classes. We commenced the work in this way: that every member should bring a Bible. We then took subjects which had to do directly with the great question of the soul's salvation to begin with, and then with spiritual life in souls to continue with. We took the Bible and the Bible only, without any commentary; we were struck very much with this fact, that in the simple study of the Bible, taking the Bible as its own expositor with proof texts from Genesis to Revelations, there was excited so great an interest. That Bible Class became like a congregation. Now, we study *not* the Bible but commentaries. The fact is this, that to secure the successful conduct of Bible classes in our Associations and other departments of religious effort, we must confine ourselves to the study of the Word of God without commentaries.

C. C. Lathrop, Newark, N. J. :

In the light of the experience that I have had with regard to this subject, I think the great difficulty in the study of the Bible in Bible classes is in relying too much on human authority and not taking the Bible as its own interpreter. I think the gentleman who opened the discussion erred as to who should constitute these Bible classes.

Rev. T. H. Fernley, Philadelphia :

I think the question is not how can we conduct Bible classes in our Sunday Schools or in our churches, but in our Associations? Our Devotional Committee select, say 12, 20 or 25 men, composed of ministers and laymen. They assign to each of these laymen or ministers a lesson, subject or topic; assign to him also a time when he shall take charge of the Bible class; have it published in the papers, and put up in posters on the street corners and in front of the hall. It takes place on Thursday night. That room is sometimes full. Some two or three hundred people are drawn in from the streets and churches to hear the Word of God, a topic selected by the Devotional Committee. It has many advantages. It lays hold of the best talent for Bible class teaching in the city, and gathers the best talent of the villages and towns of our country.

COMMITTEE OF DEVOTIONAL MEETINGS report open air service to-day at 12:30. To be led by C. J. Littlefield, of Sommerville, Mass., in front of the Merrimac Corporation.

Prayer meeting at 2 o'clock. Led by Anthony Comstock, of Brooklyn, N. Y.

Three open air services this evening, at 6½ o'clock, P. M.; one in French. Led by Rev. N. Cyr, in front of Lawrence Mills.

2d. Cor. of Jackson and Central. Led by Rev. S. A. Taggart, of Pa.

3d. Front of Huntington Hall. Led by Lang Sheafe, of Ohio.

Friday, A. M., Rooms 6 to 7. Led by H. P. Adams, Dayton, Ohio.

Before the Convention, A. M. Led by Rev. M. Hamilton, of Sommerville, Mass.

The BUSINESS COMMITTEE recommend the following order for the Afternoon Session :

That the Convention commence at 3 o'clock. After the opening exercises, to take up the second topic recommended by the Executive Committee, viz. :

Direct religious work among young men, the first and great work of Young Men's Christian Associations.

To be opened by R. R. McBurney, of New York; followed by a discussion in 5 minutes speeches. Discussion to close at 4½

o'clock. Remainder of Session devoted to hearing from members of new and smaller Associations as to the progress of their work.

The hour of 12 noon having arrived, C. J. Littlefield, of South Boston, offered prayer, and the morning session closed by singing,
 "Near the Cross."

The Afternoon Session opened with reading of Scripture and Prayer by Rev. D. W. Waldron, of East Boston. President H. Thane Miller in the Chair. After the minutes of the Morning Session had been read by the Secretary and adopted, the discussion of Topic No. 2, "*Direct religious work among young men the first and great work of Young Men's Christian Associations*," was opened by R. R. McBurney, as follows:

I consider this about the most important subject that could be presented for our consideration, for it involves the work for which the Associations, in my estimation, have their existence in this or in any other land. And in endeavoring to speak upon this subject I shall try first to point out what the Associations are not established to carry on, or in other words, that direct religious work among young men is their great work.

These Associations are not literary societies. They are not Associations in which young men meet together to debate general questions. Their business is not to have essays written upon various subjects. Their object is not that of literary institutions to maintain a library or reading-room, or a course of lectures, or a gymnasium, or a series of concerts. They are not to be carried on as social clubs. It is not the chief business of an Association to engage in these things. It is not their chief purpose to engage in the founding and maintenance of Sunday Schools or in City Mission work generally; nor generally in work among the masses. All these things we find in Associations. I believe that in all they ought to a certain extent have a place according to surrounding circumstances. If an Association maintains a daily prayer meeting in the middle of the day when young men are down town or away from the place attending to business, they are not engaged then in the primary work of their organization. All these things should have their place, but it is not the chief place. I want to be clearly understood on this point. The primary work of Associations is to reach young men religiously, so as to bring them to the Lord Jesus Christ. And if that work is not being done by the Association, no matter what other work it engages in, strictly speaking, it is not fulfilling its mission. [Applause.] The training of young men for religious work among their fellows, I assume to be one of the chief objects for which the Associations have their existence. I do not mean by this that the Secretary or the Missionary of the Association does a great deal of work, reaches a great many young men, maintains a great many meetings, secures a great many situations for young men, is indefatigable in the work for the Association—I do not mean that that is the purpose for which these Associations were founded. I think it were better that every Association in this land had not such a man for Secretary. The business of the Secretary and Board of Directors should be the teaching and training of young men who belong to the Association, who form the membership, in a way to work for the souls of young men. By this means a great

deal more is accomplished; the Association is not the Secretary, the Secretary is not the Association. I say that any Secretary of the Association who does seek to do the work of the Association, is unjust to himself and is injuring the Association. For he owes a duty to the members of the Board of Directors, and a duty to all men connected with the Association to lead them out into work for others. I consider this exceedingly important in connection with our work. We do not come up to the work indicated by the famous declaration of the Paris Conference unless we are engaged in this business of leading out young men and showing them how to be useful. Then efforts should be made for the extension of the Redeemer's Kingdom among young men who do not love the Lord Jesus Christ. Various methods should be employed. This work should be entered upon wisely, not rashly; and yet I would sooner have an inexperienced young man go ahead rashly than have a man who all the time was studying how he might approach young men on the subject of personal religion, and never reach one. However, I think it is desirable that we should act wisely in endeavoring to get hold of young men. It should be a personal work for individuals. The attendance at meetings and speaking there to young men is not sufficient. We must impress upon the members of our Associations, that if they would fulfil their mission, they must seek to lead the young men personally to feel an individual concern for the conversion of young men, and to work for that end as the present aim, in their daily callings where they meet young men, or in any way where they come in contact with them. They should send out invitations to young men to attend meetings. Bands of young men should invite other young men to religious meetings of various kinds. And when these young men come to the rooms of the Association they should be cordially received. The Secretary, or one detailed for that purpose, should be stationed in the rooms every evening with no other burden upon him than to reach these young men that come in; to get their confidence and love, and to be, if possible, the means of leading them to the Lord Jesus Christ.

Consecration of heart and life is needed for this work; intimate communion with the Lord Jesus Christ. Otherwise this work will be done, if it is done at all, without any spiritual life in it, and our efforts will be ineffectual. We need a personal consecration of heart to this particular work. We need, as was argued this morning, bible classes in our Associations; not a large bible class, such as those described in Brooklyn or in New York. We cannot maintain these generally; cannot get these Christian teachers with a world-wide reputation, but we can find in every town having an Association, men who have a practical knowledge of the Scriptures and a great love of Christ. If you cannot have fifty men come to the bible class you can have five, and if you educate five young men and are the means of leading some of these to the Saviour, you are doing a Christian work. You ought to be thankful for it. Don't shrink from this work, because you cannot make a great show. Prayer-meetings should be established in these Associations. I intimated before, that holding them during the day was not the method to reach young men, to any extent. You must have religious meetings distinctively for young men, at a time when they can attend. You should make efforts to secure young men at these meetings. If you do not you fail in your work. Special sermons should be preached in all these Associations for those young men. Singing meetings are very good, as they are agencies of a religious kind, and are found to be exceedingly useful. Efforts should be made for young men brought under the influence of religion,

to bring them into communion with some church or congregation into which they have been in the habit of worshipping at their homes. They should be made acquainted with the members of the church. This particularly applies to cities and large towns; for young men sometimes go Sunday after Sunday to these churches, and not a soul speaks to them. When you see a young man go into a church, whom you do not know, you should speak to him, and not wait till you see him two or three times; for he may never be seen in the church again.

The Convention sang,
"Work for Jesus."

Rev. J. W. Willett, Providence, R. I. :

I am pleased with the remarks that have been made by the brother who opened this discussion. I think he has named the special work of the Associations, and I think there are reasons why this work should be very earnestly attended to. It is not safe for good men to keep a good many irons in the fire; some of them may burn. But then there is another thought in my mind. The making of this our specialty, and abiding by it, justifies one feature in our organization about which a great deal of complaint is made, *i. e.*, the "Evangelical Test." Those of our friends and neighbors who differ with us on this radical point with regard to this specialty, ought not to think we intend to slight them because we do not ask them to work. But if we show that we don't half believe in it ourselves, we give them good reason to complain. So I say, for this reason, there should be earnestness and faithfulness and persistence in it. Take the outcasts in the purlieus of our cities. Try to carry them to Christ, and make them new creatures.

S. B. Alley, Auburn, N. Y. :

I wish some of the brethren would take a piece of paper and just mark out a circle within which we may work. Some of us are in church mission work, and tract work. It seems to me it runs a great deal together. Now I wish for this especially, so that we may know whether we are working in our circles when in our Sunday Schools, mission work, etc. I supposed the charge was "To do good as we have opportunity." Of course our Associations are for a special work, but men in other fields may do a direct work for the Christian Association.

James B. Baylis, Montreal :

When I joined the Association it was for the purpose of strength. We were but a few. I think we were the first on this continent that formed a Society. The first thing we wanted was sympathy; the first word we uttered was BROTHERS! We wanted to stand shoulder to shoulder in this thing. One of the grand things connected with Associations is moral sympathy. I speak now as an older man than then, but still the same thought through is that Christian men want sympathy. What do other men want who have not the power of grace in the heart? They want the sympathy of Christian men guarding, sheltering, directing and pointing to the Saviour. Then there is danger around these young men who come into the cities and large manufacturing towns. Point them out; don't be afraid to speak of them by the right name. Tell a young man of his dangers; how to avoid them. Take him by the hand and lead him to a better place. We need to deny ourselves of the pleasures and the ease and the position to which some of us may have come, to protect him from the dangers among which he treads.

Robert Weidensall, Omaha, followed.

Rev. Joseph Anderson, Waterbury, Conn. :

I spent a little while this afternoon in visiting one of the great cotton mills. I found sometimes 50, 75 or 100 persons in a single room. A large portion of these operatives are women; a considerable number are young men. I could not but help thinking and saying to my friend who accompanied me: "I wonder what the Association in the City of Lowell is really doing in behalf of these young men in the manufactories?" for I have no doubt, my friends, that the City of Lowell like other cities I know of, have a very large proportion of these young men who never see the inside of a Christian Church and know nothing of direct Christian influences, the churches and the ministers together. I mean that the churches and the church organizations are totally inadequate to reach that great class and save them for Christ; and if there be anything to justify the existence of Associations, it is the existence of this large and growing class in almost every community that pay no heed to the church, and that care not for religious influences; that are not reached by our machinery of church organizations.

Rev. J. C. Jerome, N. Y. :

Our plan was that there be a committee working in connection with the Association to acquaint members when they knew of any stranger who had come to the city, on their street or in the machine-shop, or other work, with such facts as they can give about the stranger. And then this committee themselves or through friends have men set at work to keep at these young men, not obtrusively but quietly, to make their acquaintance, working upon them in such ways as he knew to bring them to Christ. It is a fact that the work must be done by the rank and file, and not simply by the officers. The Association is a training school. It is to train young men into the work for the young men outside. This, I think, is the great way for us to work by a direct method by going to them individually. But, young men cannot do as much as women. We want to take hold of that agency. We want to bring these young men into our homes. I know what it is to be a stranger in a strange place. I know what it is to be taken into a Christian home and be welcomed there. We must remember that the Association is only an auxiliary of the Church. It is preaching which is to save the world after all, and the work of the young men of the Association is to bring these stranger young men to the home of Christianity—the Church.

A. C. Barstow, Jr., Providence, R. I. :

It seems to me that the first thing in the great work of the Association is to get young men to work. I say young men. Young men first united with our churches 16, 17 or 18 years old. It seems to me that the men who still carry on these conventions were the leading men in them 15 years ago. These are the ones we need, but we need the young men put forward a little more. I think we can go from this place to our homes and work them into the harness.

Rev. Geo. A. Hall, Washington, D. C. :

I want to intensify one thought of Mr. McBurney's. We need all these appliances of which he spoke, as being a necessity for our Associations. I mean by this we want our gymnasiums, our literary societies, all these things. And yet have it distinctly understood everywhere in all these appliances that their

use is directly to bring souls to Christ. In Washington we have had pantomimic exhibitions in connection with our Sociable. It brought 500 young men to the rooms that were never there before. I told them distinctly we had this exhibition on this occasion for the purpose to get them there, not simply to help to spend an evening, but to tell them how much the Saviour could do for them. Have it understood that all these things are secondary; that the first great thing is to lead souls to the Saviour. Last year over 200 have been converted to Christ in the Washington Association.

Rev. W. H. Anderson, Providence, R. I.:

It seems to me we get somewhat estrayed from the main object of our Associations, which is, that the Association work is to bring young men to Christ. I have no doubt in my own mind that if we exhibit the same spirit and the same faith that we do in the prosecution of our secular affairs, we can succeed in prosecuting the interest of Christ and His kingdom. How much will you spend for your library? How much for your gymnasium, just to make a good appearance to your neighbors? Now then, suppose you would spend the same amount of money in the interest of young men directly. Now it seems to me men should make it appear before the young men of the world that they really believe all they say. You meet a young man on the streets, you ask him to come over to your room. He goes. You afterward go and search him out and take him to your boarding place, or if you cannot do that, certainly you have friends in the city who love Christ sufficiently to receive him.

Rev. W. M. Martin, Brooklyn, N. Y.:

I have seen the past year, I suppose, not less than 200 souls brought to Christ by personal effort; the personal effort of individual Christian men and women mostly. In our own Association we have all manner of appliances to bring young men who are not Christians under the influences of those who are. And our intellectual, social and other work is to bring young men under the influence of personal effort. Preaching does not convert men, it convinces men. It is only by this individual work, the consecration of the life to Christ that souls are converted, which cannot otherwise be accomplished by any sort of machinery or organization than can be brought to bear.

At this point, S. S. Matthews, of Boston, led in prayer, and after the hymn

"God who gave us each a talent,"

had been sung, reports of new or small Associations were heard, as follows:

Rev. C. H. Griffin, of Milford, Conn.:

We have but sixty active members. We all want to be informed, instructed and helped along in various ways by mutual suggestions. It is true the Christian people in the place ought to give liberally to this work, which they do not. I would like to know how other towns do in this respect? Do the members of the Association pay regularly their annual dues?

Rev. R. A. Fink, Johnstown, Pa.:

Our town is not so very little, our Association is not very big—89 members—but I wish to ask the same question. We have had the same difficulty every one has, *i. e.* money. I have about come to this conclusion personally, that

there ought to be no religious service held in any church or any kind of Association, or any where at all in which men and women would not be expected to give money. I believe that giving is worship. Our Association has been doing very good work in our manufacturing community. We have acted upon the principle suggested here by some one this morning with regard to the work—going out. There was a correspondence between our place and a neighboring town; a consultation in reference to the propriety of an effort to establish an Association. And our brethren went to the town of Blairsville and had a glorious meeting, according to previous arrangement, and established an Association.

Nathan Lilly, Peru, Vermont :

We have had an organization for some five years; have four mission schools with a layman and minister at work. We have tried to do what we could.

J. A. Stevens, Waterbury, Conn. :

I represent a small Association having some 25 active members. There are four churches represented in the Association. Previous to the formation of the Association they did not seem to work very well together. We meet on Sunday evenings once a month. We have had some of the best meetings in this way. I would suggest that where Associations are formed in small towns where there are only a few members, that you start just such meetings as this; you will find them to be a benefit, and of real importance.

H. C. Greeley, Clinton, N. Y. :

Our little Association has lived for two or three years perhaps, in small rooms, but have been able to raise our funds through liberal friends, and in the last few weeks have hired what was a billiard room. We have raised \$300 besides other expenses. I tell you "The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof." That means the money. We found there was money enough when we opened the doors of our new room.

John Craig, Port Hope :

Our Association numbers 42 active members. A great deal of the work in which we are engaged is performed on Sundays. I know some people don't believe in doing much on Sunday. It does not leave enough time for communion, reading the Bible, and for religious works. It is the only time we can do much of our work. On Sunday morning we have prayer-meeting at nine o'clock, and we keep it up during the week. It is a prayer-meeting containing only three or four of us, but we try always to make it an earnest *prayer-meeting*. I think God has blessed it. There are at least now thirty in attendance on the Sabbath mornings. After the prayer-meeting some of us go out with tracts; go through the whole town, and our efforts are directed also towards sailors who may be in the place. Some go to the schooners and talk to the men, leave tracts, and in the afternoon we have a Bethel on one of the schooners, designated by a large flag, so that they can find the place of worship. We thought our room needed a little repairs. Just before coming away we papered our rooms, and they look cozy and warm. We had not much funds, but concluded to buy the paper and paper it ourselves, which we did.

"Do not be discouraged"

Was then sung by the Convention, after which reports were made by Rev. W. N. Bacon, Shoreham, Vt. :

Our Association numbers 80 members, born of a blessed revival. One of the interesting features of it was the gathering of the funds. Poor young men gave liberally. One gave \$15 out of his hard earnings, sheepshearing. We found the same spirit characterizing the religious meetings. They have been fully maintained. We cannot say in the gathering of funds that we are perfect, but we have this to say, that where there is a personal consecration to Christ the pocket will come up in time.

O. C. Barrow, Bristol, R. I. :

We are a small Association, but we have tried to hold up the Cross as a present truth to young men. We have had a meeting in the steam-engine house; had a good attendance. We changed our place of meeting, and where, some five months ago, we had only 10 persons in the meeting, we had something like 300 last Sabbath evening, and about 500 at the second meeting. We started also a social meeting on Saturday evening, and invited the young men. About the funds. Our good brother Westerly wanted an instrument in the rooms. We got the instrument in there for a week or two, and then one or two of us passed a paper around, and in three days we had the money, and the instrument paid for. These meetings have been blessed, and all our rooms were too full. Young men and women came in to practice the precious songs. The members are not wealthy, but one or two brethren, after consulting, concluded we should get some chairs, and we ordered them. One or two carried this matter to God in prayer. Dear brethren, when our hearts are consecrated to the Lord Jesus Christ, remember He will answer our prayers, and the wealth of the world is His. We placed a small box at the head of the stairs for contributions with just a simple notice. A lady happened to be in the rooms one evening, and heard them speaking of it. "Now what do you want?" she asked. It was mentioned to her. "How much does it come to?" and she paid the bill. Was not this an answer from the Lord on High?

E. Stone Spencer, Mass. :

We have not the modern appliances that some young men seek—such as bowling-alleys and things of that kind. We have a few earnest men, working Christian young men, who have been the instruments in God's hands of saving, we believe, some of our young men from destruction. Men who have gone and taken them by the hand and proved themselves in earnest. We have established a weekly meeting, at first under great apprehension lest it should fail. Many of our best men thought we had meetings enough in the village. Thank God, that meeting is established, and we have been made glad in hearing, in the last three or four months, of 15 or 20 young men and boys from 15 to 20 years of age who have been saved through the efforts of this Association and through that meeting directly. We have been organized only about five years. At first it was hard, up-hill work. Even now some of our boys are inclined to discouragement.

C. G. Movers, Minneapolis, Minn. :

We have a membership of 200, but not more than 25 active members. That is the bane of our Association. We have a Sabbath-school and Bible class on Sunday afternoons. Our Association has failed in personal efforts as to some young men, but I am determined to attempt it. Our Board of Directors and Officers connected with the Association seem to shrink from this duty. Perhaps we have had as much difficulty in the Association as any Association that

has been organized. We could not rely upon our annual dues to carry on the work of the Association, but went right to the business men of our city and asked them to pledge themselves for so much a month for our support, and they did it.

Frank Place, Courtlandville, N. Y. :

We are a place of 2,000 or 3,000 inhabitants, with an Association about three years old. At first matters were discouraging. A few of us put our hands and heads together and we hired a hall for which we paid \$200 a year, trusting to the Lord for the wherewithal to pay that rent. We have a parlor, reading-room and sort of a reception room. We raised about \$700 or \$800 the first year. We went on and fitted up our rooms and ever since that time we have had a free reading-room. We have had some difficulty in raising funds. The first year of our existence we undertook to have a lecture course. It proved a financial failure, and we had to put our hands in our pockets. We tried it again the second year, and we were a little ahead, about \$25. The third year we had a surplus fund on hand of \$500. That is the bright side of the question. I cannot report about so much aggressive work as we desire, but we have had some experience of answers to prayer. Several conversions have already been reported. We have a free reading-room for young men, a weekly prayer-meeting Sunday afternoons, well attended, rooms full.

George D. Stroud, Germantown, Pa. :

The Germantown Association was formed in 1871. It has now a membership of 263. Last December it was incorporated and given authority to issue certificates of stock. They are certificates of indebtedness without paying any interest, merely securing subscribers from any loss. We have raised in that effort some \$22,000 since December, and expect to have \$75,000 raised before the next lecture season, and also have 500 members.

John J. Ashenhurst, Ashland, Ohio :

Our Association was organized between three and four years ago. It has been carried on successfully, and as an effect of our success, our financial condition is better than ever before. We have a Monthly Meeting in one of the churches, where all unite. We get some minister from a distance to give us a sermon at these Association Meetings, and we generally raise a good collection. We have a prayer meeting every Saturday evening. Six months ago that prayer-meeting was established by six or seven young men. We went to the young ladies and asked them to come and unite with us and help us along, although some of the young men were opposed to it. The result was that in two months we had that room full every evening.

The Chairman of the Business Committee submitted the following Order of Business for the Evening Session, which was adopted:

The Committee on Business recommend that the Evening Session commence at 7½ o'clock, in Huntington Hall.

After opening exercises, take up the 6th topic recommended by the Executive Committee, viz. : *How can the Association help young men to resist temptation?*

The subject to be opened by Joseph Anderson, of Waterbury,

Conn., to be followed by J. J. Joyce, Philadelphia, H. P. Lloyd, Cincinnati, in speeches of five minutes each. After which the subject to be thrown open for discussion. Discussion to close at 9 o'clock, at which time it is recommended that a question-drawer be opened, when opportunities be given for questions to be asked and answered relative to the great work of Associations. The questions to be collected at the opening of the Evening Session; to adjourn at 9½ o'clock.

Mr. Lovejoy presented invitations from O. H. Moulton, Esq., of Hamilton Manufacturing Co., Jackson Street, to visit them at 2½ o'clock to-morrow; also the Agents of Lawrence, Tremont and Suffolk Manufacturing Co., from 5 to 6 P. M., to-morrow.

Mr. Sleeper also on behalf of the Lowell Carpet Co. invited the Convention to visit the mills between 9 and 1 A. M. to-morrow, and 2 and 5 P. M.

The invitations were accepted.

The Labor Song was sung, and after prayer by Rev. J. P. Hubbard, the Convention was dismissed with the benediction by the Rev. T. A. Fernly, of Philadelphia, to meet as above.

EVENING SESSION.—THURSDAY.

At 7.45 o'clock the Evening Session was opened by singing

“Nearer my God to Thee.”

Rev. J. E. Rankin, D.D., of Washington, read the Scriptures (8th Chapter Epistle to the Romans) and offered prayer. The Secretary read the Minutes of the Morning Session, which were adopted. The following telegram was read, and the Chairman of the Business Committee requested to send a reply:

ALTOONA, PA., June 13, 1873.

To the Pres. of Convention Y. M. C. A., now in session:

The Grand Lodge I. O. of Good Templars of Pennsylvania, now in session, sends fraternal greetings to the Young Men's National Association, wishing them God's continued blessing in their Christian work, and praying for the hearty co-operation with us in our efforts to save our race from the dreadful curse of drunkenness and its cause, the liquor traffic.

S. B. CHASE, *Presiding Official.*

H. P. Lloyd, of Cincinnati, moved that the Order of Exercises be suspended to allow Jas. Stokes, Jr., of Executive Committee, to introduce Prof. Wm. Milligan, D.D., of the University of Aberdeen, and Rev. John Marshall Lang, of Edinburgh.

James Stokes, Jr. :

Mr. Chairman and Friends :—I think, perhaps, one of the pleasantest occasions with which our meeting have been honored, is that we have had the opportunity to salute those coming to greet us from the other Associations beyond the seas. At times we have had deputations and letters, and occasionally the beloved presence of our brothers from the other side. To-night we are really honored in having the presence of two gentlemen who, although not particularly connected with the Associations, yet bring us a kindly, hearty greeting. You know that in the Presbyterian Church there has been a blending together, and they had sent over last year delegates to the Free Church of Scotland, and in return they have reciprocated by sending back two distinguished members of that Church, Prof. Wm. Milligan, D.D., of Aberdeen, and the Rev. John Marshall Lang, of Edinburgh. I have now great pleasure in presenting these gentlemen.

The Convention then rose and greeted the guests by singing
 "Blest be the tie that binds."

After a few introductory remarks by President H. Thane Miller, Prof. Wm. Milligan, D.D., spoke as follows :

Mr. Chairman and Christian friends—I know that you have upon your paper for to-night a subject for discussion that is one of the most important that can occupy the attention of this Convention. I must therefore endeavor to cultivate what I fear I must call more than ordinary brevity. And now addressing myself to you for a moment, I beg, Mr. Chairman and Christian brethren, in one or two sentences only, to express the very deep feeling of interest and delight with which I find myself in the midst of such a noble assemblage as I have just at this moment before me. Everything that has occupied my attention, as well as the attention of my coadjutor of the Free Church of Scotland since we landed on the shores of America, has been a subject of ever-increasing interest and delight. I may truly say that no grander or more intensely interesting spectacle has been presented to our view than that afforded by an assembly such as this. By finding so many young men, in the very prime and strength of their youth and of their manhood, banding thus together for the noblest objects that can occupy the attention of reasonable and moral men—the advancing of the glory of God and the spiritual and eternal interests of all, especially of young men like these.

Mr. Chairman, Conventions of this kind are, so far as I am aware, not known in my native land ; but we also in Scotland, in all our larger towns, have Christian Associations like these branch Associations in the different cities of America that are represented in this assembly. And I rejoice to be able to say to you, sir, that these Christian Associations of young men, assembling thus for purposes similar to your own, have gained a most important and influential position among the Christian activities of my native land. Let me, for example, take the city of Aberdeen. Let me mention a fact that will not be, I believe,

without interest to the members of this Convention. There have been for a series of Winters past, in the town of Aberdeen—a town with a population of between 70,000 and 80,000 inhabitants—various attempts made to while away some of the long Winter evenings by providing lecturers from the different parts of the country, upon important literary subjects. These efforts have been made by two different bodies in the town. By one association that is known in my country as “the Mechanics’ Institute.” It is an institute for giving a higher education to artisans and skilled mechanics, and supported in no small degree by the intelligent people and the citizens. The other attempt has been made by the Christian Association of young men in Aberdeen. And while the one attempt has proved in the town almost a failure, the other has, year after year, received the increasing confidence of the inhabitants. Year after year the Association of Aberdeen has been so nobly assisted by the citizens of that town, that they have been compelled to remove gradually from one hall to another of a larger size, until last Winter they were compelled to engage the largest hall in the city; a hall capable of containing between two and three thousand hearers. And there, week after week, in no small degree owing at once to the skillful management of the young men, and the interest they had excited in the town, they are able to fill their hall with highly interested and cultivated audiences.

Mr. Chairman, there can be no doubt, sir, what is the Christian principle and the strength of these Associations. We rejoice, all of us, to bear our most decided testimony to the fact that it is the Christian element in them that has given them that strength. We are not called upon to frown upon education. No; I believe that all of us would desire to the utmost of our power to encourage a wide and liberal culture of the mind; but we are bound together by this deep conviction, that the grand element alike necessary for the individual character and for the community at large, is the fear of God and the love of God in Christ Jesus our Saviour. [Applause.]

Sir, it would illy become a Scotchman to be ashamed in any audience in the world to proclaim, looking back over the history of his own nation, that if there is one thing more than another to which the place which has been gained by that small people in the world is due, it is to that Christian element so deeply imbedded by our forefathers in the minds of the people. We have had many advantages to help us on in Scotland. We have had what you will perhaps wonder that I shall speak of as an advantage. We have had, in the first place, the grand advantage of poverty. That land was like your own land when the Pilgrim Fathers landed on the Rock of Plymouth—

“A land of brown heath and shaggy wood,
A land of mountain and of flood.”

And we have had to dare, and to conquer in what we dared. But above all we have the element of deep faith in God—a deep faith in the grand truths of the Christian religion, and that faith, notwithstanding all the liberal culture of the day, has not yet died out; is very far, indeed, from ever dying out of the hearts of our people. Let me tell you, when I was formerly employed, a good many years ago, as a country minister, in a country parish, in Scotland, a little incident which may help to illustrate what is the feeling and knowledge of our people, even of our young men. There was a country parishioner of mine who had the idea that ministers and schoolmasters were particularly favored in the buying of books; that booksellers extended to them a liberality that no other portion of the community could secure. Having now gained a little money by

his work, he thought he would begin to form a library, and was anxious to get his books as cheap as possible, so that he might purchase the books that would be the foundation of his library. When he asked me, I said, "Well, what books shall I get for you?" The two books that he mentioned were, "The Pilgrim's Progress" and the "Confession of Faith." That is not exactly the style of reading that is recommended by the literary cultivators of our day; and yet, I will say, that it will be a sad day, even for Scotland, or for America, when books like these have ceased to hold their place in the love and veneration of the rising generation of our land. Let us take the novels, if you like; the romances, if you like; bring the whole range of modern culture, and let us show and say that we are not afraid of any part of it. We can find sermons in stones, and God in everything. [Applause.] But while we do that, let us, in Scotland—may we be permitted in saying, do you, in America—stand fast by the old foundations. We have made our countries great; while we love and respect in our use all that may be brought in as an element of advancing civilization, let us above all influences be careful to show that our Christian leaven is the leaven that leavened the meal; that our Christian hope, alike for the present and for the future, is that Word of God and that faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, in the strength of which your Associations are both founded and, I believe and trust, will be always carried on. [Applause.]

Rev. John Marshall Lang followed:

Mr. President and Christian friends—My brother who has just spoken and myself have been introduced to you as "Canny Scots." We represent among you that great element of civilization called "The Scot abroad." [Laughter and applause.] And though we have come from abroad, we have never been away from Scotland. That is, in the course of our journeys, we found, while whirling about on the wings of the morning to all sorts of places, representatives of our own nationality. And there is one thing that I have noticed in this great Continent, that you all have a very kindly feeling for us Scotch folks [applause], and on their part that the Scotch folks return that feeling to you with a considerable amount of interest. And if anything that we can say for ourselves, or for our members—bearing Scotland, so to speak, on our own broad shoulders—can convince you of that fact and if besides that, we can appeal in any way to your hearts and souls, realizing the mighty appeal that has come from your hearts to us, we would thank God that, on this hot summer evening, we have been enabled to visit this magnificent Convention.

Now, sir, I am not speaking in exaggerated language, when I say of myself, this marks one of the supreme remembrances of my life. I know not when I felt more touched, felt all that was in me more stirred, than when your President took my brother and myself by the hand while you sang that beautiful hymn which witnesseth to the Communion of Saints.

And now, as I speak to young men, and not only to young men alone, but young men complemented and filled up by the other sex, I cannot find words to express the emotions of which I am conscious. It is a grand thing to feel the pulses of Christian movement silently; it is a grand thing to find those to whom we speak having a kindred feeling; all looking to the same center; all having within them the power of the same loved conviction; and far more, when I think that so many of you represent the youth of this great Continent. I am not a very old man; not yet passed the condition in which I can feel myself thoroughly young; although I would always like to be guided by the

influence of my elders. I would always like to feel myself *en rapport* with my cotemporaries and my juniors, so that old age may guide me with its counsel, and youth may envelope me with its sympathy.

Now, my brethren, that I have you all about me and can put my finger at the pulse of every one of you ; speaking to you not of young men, but to young men that have crossed the frontier, and are not ashamed to acknowledge yourselves Christians, I desire in all humility that my poor voice may be able to speak some words of earnest counsel, and loving and fraternal congratulation. If I speak words of counsel I would say to all my brethren, the men about me, there is a way in which, if you have all started fair, you have all begun truly and really with Christ as your Saviour. It is the great thing in this world to have our first principles not always before us but always near hand. We should have the second, third or fourth principles before us, but the first always with us. Now, I think all of you recognize this is the very first principle, that here in this world the true ideal of greatness is to *serve*. The world—meaning by that the thoughtless and graceless part of the community—the world has another idea. It is the great idea that to get and to have is the mark of true greatness. So on one side you have men spending all their strength, prostrating their youth, brain power and soul power, so that they may gather in wealth. As they get wealth, so they seem to think they get greatness. You know in our ways and speech how we recognize them. We speak of a man as worth so many thousand dollars as having the most perceptible influence in the position he takes in society ; but you and I, if we are true to Christ, beg leave to differ with the graceless community. We can say that what marks and constitutes the man's worth is not what he has in the shape of mere wealth of that kind, but what he has in the shape of thoughts, of feelings, of desires, of energy, of that which marks intellectual, moral, and spiritual power, what he has when baptized by the Spirit of Christ freely given away for the good of his universe and the good of his fellow men. (Great applause.) If he belongs to another section of that same world he chooses the mere culture side. We find that to which my brother has just alluded, namely, the idea of culture, as being the all in all. This doctrine you will find preached in reviews, magazines, books and papers innumerable. It is the idea that you find at the root of many theories of education that prevail among a number of educationalists. The idea, viz., that to cultivate this self of ours to develop all its power, what Matthew Arnold in England called "a certain inward sweetness and light," that that is the chief end and object of a man. Here you and I are this night. Do you continue to be a man of the world ? If we say that whilst our work is to cultivate all the powers that God has given us, we are untrue to Him, unless and until we try to be the very best workman in our particular work, in our particular department of life ; to do the very best that our hands find to do ; above all, until we are seeking studiously to cultivate our hearts as well as heads, and grow broad as well as high, that by this idea amongst us, the Church may take breadth as well as length ; and if we seek that as our mark, it is in order that we may extend our great business, which is to be the business of serving to give God true human service of all that we have, so that we may not merely make the world here a minister belonging to us, but that we make ourselves ministers to the world, causing it to be a little better for our living in it, recognizing as Thomas Carlyle, one of our prophets has put it, that it is the work of a God. "No work so Godlike as that to make some one of God's creatures a little better, a little wiser, or a little less accursed !" So you and I

clasping Christ to our hearts here say yes, because Christ teaches us to do it; because Christ gave us the power and enables us to do that. "God forbid that we should glory except in the Cross of Jesus Christ our Lord." (Applause.) Well, then my brethren, you are men whom I think have begun with Christ, and have started on your way through life determined you will seek the glory of the Lord Himself—the glory of serving, recognizing being rather than getting, of giving, rather than having, is the true nobility of a man; I hope that having so started you will learn to hold on well. That it will not be said of you in after years, "Ye did run well, who did hinder you?" Ah! my dear friends, the temptation to fall away from this high ideal is very great and very manifest too. You cannot have lived many years in the world without finding that out. You know it is very hard to keep yourselves up to the enthusiasm with which you began your Christian race. After a little the rubbing down and rubbing away influences of the world as we pass on, begin to tell upon us. But, oh! for the love of God, don't fall away from your first love. Let it be your continual prayer and desire that instead of losing your first love you may carry it on to nobler, better and higher purposes. You must steep your mind continually in spiritual influences in the midst of the strife going on about you. You must fall back on that great word. The Communion which we have received from the Holy Ghost, it will teach you all things. See that every day you are spiritually refreshed; that as you go forth every day to your work recruited by sleep; so you go forth to God's work refreshed by your morning prayer; refreshed by your draft from Christ Jesus himself; refreshed by taking into you all that marks out and constitutes the true Christian. That true Christian will so hold on in the world, a Christian that fulfils His great charge: "Be faithful unto death," that you may receive His great promise, "And He will give you that crown of life."

Yes, I count this a magnificent moment. When I go back to Scotland, I will tell my people, I will tell old Scotland till it rings with the scene, that I met you all this evening; that I saw you all soldiers taking each other by the hand and lifting the ensign of salvation, resolved to do for Christ what your countrymen have done for their country on many a bloody field of battle. [Great applause.] You have a magnificent work. This great continent you have laid before you, a great materialism is spreading over it, caused by the wonderful opening of the theatres of action that are all about you; then with how great a degree of constancy should you seek for the most powerful Christian life to counteract and shake these tendencies, and consecrate that energy which is so wonderful in your nation, until it shall be an energy even more distinct when it is for the Lord. You must to work my friends for this. I heard it said about some Irish people, "that they had never seen them at work, but that they had many a time seen them either going to work or looking out for work." It must not be so with you, but you must really all be at work. [Applause.] You know this, that to work for Christ is to work on the side of all that is good, to work on the side of all that is high-toned, loving and generous in the world of thought and action; it is to work for the salvation of souls; it is to work for the future, for whosoever giveth himself to Christ has already realized the future in his own soul. That is the pledge of the victory over all that is evil, overcoming the godless in the world. So hold on! work on! live on! Remember how the brave Tirshatha said, when he called the priests about him, and they confirmed their promise with an oath, "I shook my lap and said so God shake out every man from his house, and from his labor, that performeth not this promise."

The Convention sang

"Dear Christian Friends."

The Topic "*How can the Associations help young men to resist temptations?*" was opened by the Rev. Joseph Anderson, of Waterbury, Conn.

Mr. President :—A countryman of the reverend brother to whom we have just listened, well known in literature both in Scotland and in America, I refer to the author that goes by the name of "The Country Parson," has made this remark, "It is fearful to think how malleable is the human soul to the influences of temptation." It is fearful to think indeed of the existence of temptation; the fact that evil in its most insidious forms finds embodiment and expression therein; the fact that so many are overwhelmed thereby and swept away, ought to make life seem a more serious thing to us than otherwise it could. Many of us are not so young, though we call ourselves young men, but we have the joy of being called fathers. Have you, my brother, a little boy young enough to sleep in his cradle? If so, sit down by the sleeping babe and look at him. Think of his face, the sweetness that is in it, the wonderful innocence therein manifested. Drink in the spirit of that child and consecrate him to the Lord and Saviour. For unless you do this, you may well think of a day that is coming. Let your mind run on to that future fifteen or twenty years hence, and look at that face again. Ah! there are tell-tale lines in it; lines which betray familiarity with vice, with intemperance, with licentiousness, with dishonesty, perchance with crime. Fifteen or twenty years have passed away, and the child so seemingly innocent in the cradle, has become polluted from head to foot, from the external covering to the inmost heart. How has this been brought about? By the influence of that fearful mystery—temptation. The temptations of the world besetting him at every step, and finally the work is ruin. In fact, my friends, we cannot look at the existence of evil manifested thus in the form of temptation, without feeling we are brought face to face with the whole mystery underlying human life, without feeling our helplessness, and when we feel our helplessness that will lead us to the first answer which I shall suggest to the question which has been brought before us.

That answer is Prayer. Feeling our helplessness in the presence of temptation, realizing the helplessness of the tempted are in and of himself, we resort to Him who is all power and all blessedness, and ask Him for that help which otherwise we cannot have. And we are justified in this to the full, by the example and precept of our Saviour himself, who has taught us through the mother's voice, speaking to the child at the knee, "Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil." Let us, as Christian Associations, pray for these men for that. "Oh, Thou, who was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Oh, Thou who was a young man, and still art, and who while here on earth passed through the experience of a young man's trials, succor this tempted brother, this tempted friend, this tempted wanderer; bring him to Thyself. Save him from the dominion of evil."

I speak of the tell-tale lines in a young man's face, betraying familiarity with intemperance, licentiousness and dishonesty. Speaking thus, classifying these, I have suggested what seems to me one of the chief sources of temptation in the life of young men. There is the temptation to excess in drinking; there is the temptation to licentiousness; the temptation to dishonesty. In the first

two of these temptations are embodied, in visible forms, the visible incentives to evil. Now, my *second* answer to the question before us is this : That we can help all tempted young men, by doing our duty as Christian Associations, in the suppression of these incentives to vice. Suppressing the indiscriminate traffic in intoxicating drinks. [Applause.] And in suppressing and doing what we can to blot out of existence that worst pest of modern society, licentious and obscene literature. [Applause.] And more than this, it is our duty as young men, many of us in the walks of business life, to insist on the very highest standard of commercial integrity, and to insist upon this in all quarters amongst us, high and low. [Applause.] And this business of suppressing the incentives to vice ennobles the incentives to virtue.

I proceed to the *third* answer to the question before us, which is this : Instruction in the cardinal principles of morality. That catechism which the brethren who have addressed you, and myself and many others not only in Scotland but here, learned in our childhood, has embodied in it alongside the blessed principles referring to Christ and His redemption, the Decalogue, the old Ten Commandments of the Law. And they as Scotchmen, and we as Puritan Americans, and Americans from all parts of the land, believe in that Decalogue, and insist upon the principles underlying it. Now I hold it ought to be taught. I may not carry you with me in this, but it seems to me Morality ought to be taught through young men by the Associations. A gentleman who has charge of the Normal School for Negroes in the South made this remark in my presence : "During a revival he did not consider his property to be any safer." This shows the possibility of a practical divorce between what passes under the name of religion and real morality ; and the whole history of the world testifies to the possibility of that divorce. Now we, as Christian Associations, ought to see that this divorce does not take place within our reach ; that young men are taught the distinction between right and wrong ; taught the great leading first truth—Fidelity to principle is moral courage ; are taught finally to get all these with the presence of the love of Christ in the heart.

A most eloquent countryman of our brethren who have spoken—I rejoice I can call him my countryman also—Dr Chalmers, has for a title of one of his sermons, "The expulsive power of a new affection." It seems to me young men need to be taught the expulsive power of a new affection ; to be thrown back to this doctrine, that in order to be secure against the inroads of sin, we ought to have that new affection and love of the Lord Jesus Christ in the heart evermore. [Applause.]

I will state, in conclusion, my *fourth* answer to the question before us. When I first looked at it I said to myself, can Christian Associations help young men to resist temptation at all? And I doubted it. Then I had a better thought, and began to imagine how a temperance society helped its young men to resist temptation ; how it is the Christian Church helps its members to resist temptation ; how these families help their boys and girls to resist temptation ? And the answer that came to me was this : Not by way of machinery, but by the creation of a Christian, loving, holy, blessed atmosphere around them. And it seems to me, if we are going to do anything in this direction, we must as Associations become like Christian households, by having breathed into them the spirit of Christ and Christian brotherhood. This atmosphere surrounding a young man, which he shall drink in, which he shall breathe and continue to live in, is one he can't get beyond. We were reminded to-day of Him who

said, "England expects every man to do his duty." How did England produce that impression on a Nelson and the rest of them? I hardly know how to express it; but it seems to me the air of the Associations can be made to induce the impression on the young men to make them feel and say, "My Association expects me to do my duty; my Association expects me to be true, and loving, and charitable; my Association expects me to go forward in the way of salvation and enter at the gate." God help us to inculcate this spirit in all our members, and to carry them on the blessed path.

H. P. Lloyd, Cincinnati:

Mr. President—If I should answer this question in one or two sentences, I would say, furnish employment for the idle, or if you please, work for the workless. Furnish homes to the homeless. Offer Christ to the Christless. A large portion of the temptations that are leading our young men astray, and in which they need so much help, come from our large cities and towns among the idle young men; some of them at our doors through the fact that they need regular employment to occupy them every day; and they are led astray by these temptations until they are lost. Therefore, I say if you are in an Association where you can possibly have an employment committee, you should furnish labor for the young men of the community that are idle. Furnish work to the workless, and you enable them to resist the large class of temptations which assail the idle. You well know this is as true as when the song was written:

"Satan finds some mischief still
For idle hands to do."

And there are those who have employment during the day, but have no homes at night. Do you ever think what a desolate condition that man is in that has no home? Obligated to wander up and down the streets of one of the cities or towns; no parlor, no friendly voice to greet him, no place where the semblance or comforts of a home can be his. That man has the same desire for comfort that you or I have. Temptation comes in and meets him there with the open doors of the haunts of vice before him. Is it any wonder that these poor, desolate, homeless young men are led astray, and fall so constantly and so far? Now, if you can in your Associations furnish homes for these young men, comfortable and attractive places; if you will step only further, and open occasionally your own parlors and sitting rooms and dining-rooms to these homeless wanderers, you will do signally as Associations a large work, and as Christian men and women take a great step towards enabling them to resist temptation; because by your sympathy and your conversation you will give them nerve and strength to resist and overcome temptation.

I will say one word more, to repeat what my brother said in closing, give to them something that will go deeper and reach higher than any one of these things. As I said at the outset, offer Christ to these poor Christless ones. Yes! There are many having regular employment, having comfortable and attractive homes, that are still led astray. Through all, and over and above all, offer Christ to the Christless young men. Work for the workless, homes for the homeless, Christ for the Christless. [Applause.]

Rev. J. J. Joyce, Jr., Philadelphia:

Temptation in itself, as we all know, is not the evil. Temptation itself is, as its name denotes, a trying of the principles of man's nature. It is the bringing to bear upon the different functions of his soul the outward influences that are all about him. A trying that has been established of necessity, because of

man's fallen nature; but a trial which, when resisted, develops the soul, and calls down God's blessing. And so the question has been well worded, "How shall we aid young men, not to avoid temptation, but to resist it?" Not to seek to escape from its influence, for that would be of no avail; how to surround it with this wondrous power that, meeting with temptation, it can stand up completely against its assaults, and come out conqueror. A young man that starts out with some object in view, and feels all the certainty within his soul that it is among the possible things that he can reach that object, and gain or acquire that which he desires, has already got over half of the difficulty, and made a long stride toward his would be goal. So we are to tell young men that are tempted, as they bow down under the weight of sin that is pressing upon them, as they bend beneath the temptations that surround them, we ought to tell them it is among the possible things to be Christlike, to resist temptation and shake off its shackles, and to stand up free from its fangs. How do we know that this is possible? How can I come to the man that is day after day, and week after week, in the face and sight of the pleading arguments of friends and others, persisting in evil courses, and say, "You can succeed, you may overcome, you may be able to shake off that which binds you." I can tell him from the natural experience of the human heart surrounded in this world by its temptations. Could I come to him with only that which I could find in my own natural experience, I could but bid him despair. For every time the natural heart seeks to resist it, it is only broken down beneath its billows, and washed over by its seas. But I can come to him and tell him there is One come down from heaven bearing a message that can bring peace, comfort and hope to his anguished soul; that can tell him that it is possible for him to have the power to resist temptation. I can tell him, in the words of this God-given message, that God will enable us to escape from the power of temptation; that He will give us that which will enable us to shake off its fetters. I can do more than that. I can point to those among the circle of his acquaintances, who, in the years gone by, have been even as he, and yet to-day are rejoicing in the power of Christ Jesus to resist the temptation that formerly swept over them as it now sweeps over him. It is then possible to take any young man by the hand, it matters not how often the waves have gone over him, how often he has bowed down under the weight of sin, how often he has struggled to shake it off, and yet has fallen again, and say, my brother, you may yet rise; my brother, you may yet become a Christ-like man, and your heart can yet be pure; you can yet rise superior over those foes now enchaining you, and become a new man, completed in Christ. With your confidence then in the possibilities of the future of other young men that you see, believe as you go to him that he may become Christ's, and may be enabled to resist temptation.

And then again we must teach, first of all, after telling him that this is a blessed possibility, to recognize between the evil and the good. We must so train the perceptive powers of his soul as regards that which is right and wrong, that with the instinctive knowledge of a pure heart he can see the evil, and detect it in the temptation as it appears to him. There is many a young man, believe me, Mr. President, that has become so enured to sin, that has bowed down so often beneath it, that he scarcely now knows it is sin; scarcely knows he has fallen into temptation, and that it holds him in its awful grasp. Teach him what is right, and out of this precious word what God would have him to be. Let him see that its rules and precepts are the standard of what God desires in him.

At the close of the discussion a telegram was read from George H. Stuart, after which President H. Thane Miller sang

"One more year's work for Jesus."

The Question-Box was then opened, and questions read and answered by C. C. Lathrop, of Newark, N. J., as follows :

1. Should Associations keep their reading-rooms open on Sundays?

I say in large cities, Yes! Because there are young men there that will not go to any church or to any place of religious worship, and have no homes but a desolate part of the house, who will seek saloons and places of dissipation if you do not direct them to something better. In country villages and towns where there are churches and the influences of a home-kind, I say No!

2. How do you enlist pastors in Association work?

Now if there is a Pastor in this country that is not interested in Association work, I should like to have him explain it. But if there is an Association in the country that knows of such a man who does not know how best to promote his own church interests, let the Association just say to him, "We want you to come in and conduct our services such a night, and preach before our Association at such a time," and let the young men in that place, town or city, go and take a young lady and fill up every pew. I tell you the next day he will come around to your reading-room and express his pleasure in the work you are doing; and especially he will find it so when he gets his young men into it. A Pastor said to me once, "The very best men I have got are the men in your Association." I said to him "they are the best because they are in our Association."

3. What is the best way to conduct cottage prayer-meetings?

I suppose to go right in there and read a passage of Scripture, bringing a kind of power upon it. Do just as the negro did it. He hardly could express himself at all, but in prayer he was wonderfully fluent. "How in the world do you pray so?" Why, says he, "I lie down flat on the promises and look right up to God." Now just do that in cottage prayer-meetings, and the Holy Ghost will come there. Every one that gets up to say something should say something that will reach some other heart. It is not the intelligent that will say the best things. Some ignorant person may say something that exactly meets another person in the same position.

4. Ought Christian Associations to become active in opposing, by prosecutions and otherwise, any of the popular vices of the day, such as liquor selling, gambling, houses of prostitution, &c.?

Christian Associations, as such, are banded together to rescue young men from just such places, if they go there. Now guide young men in such a way that they will never more fall into such associations. But if in a place there are such institutions which draw away the young men, and the people band together and call upon you and every good citizen to help them, go armed and equipped with the power of trust in God, and if it is necessary go to the law, and take the means to do it; you will find these men the greatest cowards on the earth when they find you are in earnest. [Applause.] We had a little experience in our city in regard to Sunday traveling. They could not get it. We went into the council chamber with our petition. One of the aldermen

threw it clean across the floor; would not so much as postpone action upon the subject. We went to the Legislature, and got a law forbidding the cars to run on Sunday.

5. *How can an Association be revived which has only three or four members that are willing to do anything, which is largely in debt, and which has taken every way to excite an interest in the public, by public meetings, &c., without success?*

I would say to these three or four persons in that Association in such unhappy circumstances, that they must just put their trust in God. Go to the churches and pastors, and call a meeting for prayer, and see if the Holy Ghost will not revive you. Your duty is to go forward, feeling that God will open the way.

The following question was read and answered by Rev. Geo. A. Hall, of Washington, D. C.:

6. *How can members of Associations be made active?*

First—Let the active, devoted Christian men and women in the Associations seek, by earnest prayer, some one member of the Association, and hold that one before the Master, and work with that one until they have succeeded in getting him active. And then the second, and third, and fourth, when the time will very soon come that you will have an active force, and try to get all the members assisting one another.

Second—Seek to systematize the work so that it will not devolve on one, two, or three, to do it all. Take a memorandum-book, and ask a certain member to give one hour a week to the Association. "What hour will you give me?" Put the name down. Get him pledged for the day and the week.

7. *Has any Association tried the financial plan—a band of men promising to pay so much yearly for the Association support? How does it work?*

Answered by H. B. Chamberlaine:

In the Association I represent—75 active members—it works well. The collections are made yearly. The subscriptions have amounted to nearly a thousand dollars. Five times, within two years, it has been refused; every cent of the balance has been collected. So far as I know the plan has worked well wherever it has been tried. "The financial plan" the brother speaks of is this, the subscription of a certain amount to be paid each year, yearly or monthly, until the subscriber gives notice to the proper authority when the subscription stops.

The following were read and answered by C. B. Stout, of New Jersey:

8. *Is not the introducing of long essays and addresses in our State Conventions, even though they may be given by D.D.'s, or other prominent men, an evil?*

It may not be an evil particularly, but not to be very strongly recommended.

9. *Can any but members of Evangelical churches be enrolled as active members of the Y. M. C. A.? I ask to satisfy a moralist.*

Can the blind lead the blind? Settled before the man was born.

10. *What is one of the best books for our Christian workers to read, aside from the Bible?*

The "Christian Hero." Just published.

11. *In what respect should a church Bible-class differ from one connected with an Association?*

I thought, at first, of saying in the same way that a picture differs from a statue. That may be thought reflecting upon the church, so we will not institute any comparison. Let the church Bible-class be what it may, but let the Association Bible-class be a live thing. Let it be conducted, for if you don't conduct a Bible-class it will conduct you.

12. *Should every Association maintain a Bible-class?*

Yes.

13. *What is the first thing to do with a young man?*

If he is hungry, he must be fed; naked, he must be clothed. Take him to the foot of the cross, and bow to the Saviour of mankind.

14. *What is the greatest need of the moment?*

No doubt, brethren, it is the presence and power of the Holy Ghost.

15. *Will some Canadian tell us more about their Bible-classes—how conducted? What do you find the most successful modes of raising money? Do you make your merchants support you as moral Insurance Companies?*

J. S. Maclean, of Halifax, N. S., replied:

We have 85 Associations in the lower Provinces; the maritime provinces in Canada. I think I am safe in saying every Association has a Bible-class. More than that, I would consider we were not at all doing our work if we did not have Bible-classes in connection with our Associations. I would just say, too, it is from David's blessed book of Psalms. The question is asked by him: "By what means shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed thereto according to thy word." And we consider there is no other way of leading us up to a higher spiritual life other than through this study of the word of God. Therefore, we consider a Bible-class indispensable.

Each Association has its own way of conducting them. We have it on Saturday night. That is the best night. We have had it on that night for eighteen years, and never missed one. Have it as social as possible, in our parlor, sitting around a table twenty or fifty young men, with their Bibles, taking up the lesson as arranged by the Committee on Bible-classes. We read it over; a few of us about, pray over it, and sing and pray before we study the lesson. And then the Chairman, leading off, opens it by a few minutes' conversation, giving his own ideas of the passage, and then he asks if any brother desires to make any remark. By that means we get answers around the room. Many of our older Christians, out of the Association for many years, come back to us just to get refreshed.

As to money; we tell our merchants that they must support us. The associate members must support us. The active members have to give also; but we consider we do the work, and they must find the money, and we never come out in debt. Every year, always have a balance on the right side.

Peter B. Simons, of Philadelphia, read and answered the following:

16. *Have we a general report from all the States of number of Societies for the*

last year in each State, together with the number of active members? Such reports would be useful at each National Convention as to our progress.

The answer is, we have it all in the Report of the Executive Committee.

17. *Why should church members, connected with Y. M. C. A., be defined as active members, when many so called are as inactive as the associate?*

Echo answers, why? All I can say is this, if the dear brother who wrote this question feels that the Christian Association is in such a state, all that he has to do is to go to work himself. Just a little spark will kindle a great fire. An earnest, warm heart will draw others into the work, and set it in progress.

18. *Ought an Association of 300 members to have a salaried Secretary?*

My answer to that is, if you can raise the money to pay him, you ought to have one by all means, because we must have some one to do the general work of the Association, and the laborer is worthy of his hire. An Association in active operation requires the whole services, the whole time of one person at least to direct its forces.

19. *How do you get funds to help young men in need of food, clothes and a home?*

Lang Sheaf, of Cleveland, Ohio, replied :

In Cleveland we own our building, and have a front room on the third floor with sufficient revenue for all such applicants. I want to say this, we are appealed to often by those who ought to be in the workhouse, but where a man shows himself to be worthy, we have a fund provided for that purpose.

20. *Is not intemperance one of the greatest foes of the Y. M. C. A.? Ought not State and International Conventions of the Y. M. C. A. to devote one meeting to the subject of temperance?*

Answered by J. H. Cheever, of Cincinnati.

In answer to this : in every Association that I am at all familiar with, they have their Temperance Pledges and Societies, and are constantly striving to induce young men to become Temperance men ; and as for the International and State Conventions I am acquainted with, I would say they are all Temperance Conventions, and that this Convention, I have no doubt, is one.

21. *A Young Ladies Christian Association is said to exist in this City, numbering 800 members. Have they any rights which a Young Men's Christian Association are bound to respect? How can we secure their invaluable aid in rescuing sinners from destruction?*

H. Thane Miller replied :

I have this to say, I never knew a woman that did not have just as many rights as a man. I always feel we should respect every right that any woman has. In reference to the rights of this Women's Christian Association, of Lowell, they have the right to do for young women here, just what the young men are trying to do for the young men. God help the Young Men's Associations to help their sisters. Now in reference to your securing the co-operation of the Young Women's Association, how are you going to do it? Why ask them to be help-meets for you?

22. *Ought Christian Associations to admit ladies to active membership?*

I think all Young Men's Associations should act upon the principle that our married members have done, ask them to be *associate members*.

The Chairman of the Business Committee reported the following for to-morrow's proceedings, which was adopted, as follows :

The Committee on Business recommend that in place of a regular session of the Convention to-morrow morning, that the delegates hold meetings in five different sections—in the St. Paul Methodist Church on Hurd Street, for the purpose of comparing views and methods of work, together with the encouragements and discouragements they meet with.

One section consisting of President and Ex-Presidents to meet in Room C—in the basement, to be led by C. C. Lathrop, of Newark, N. J.

One section composed of members of Boards of Management, to meet in Room A—also in the basement, to be led by Russell Sturges, of Boston.

One section composed of Secretaries or Superintendents, meet in Room D—to be led by R. R. McBurney, of New York.

One section composed of International Executive Committee and Corresponding Members, to meet in Room B—to be led by Cephas Brainerd, of New York.

Another section composed of all Delegates not holding any official position, to meet in the body of the Church—to be led by P. B. Simons, of Philadelphia.

These Sectional Meetings to be held from 9½ to 11 o'clock, at which time they will report the results of their deliberation to the Convention in the body of the Church. After which, if time permits, the Committee recommend that the 5th Topic be taken up, "*Lectures and Lecturer*," &c.

W. M. Martin, of Brooklyn, open discussion till hour of adjournment.

An invitation to attend the Ladies' Strawberry Festival at the First Congregational Church after adjournment, was accepted.

After the pronouncing of the Benediction by the Rev. Geo. B. Chadborne, of Lowell, the Convention adjourned.

THIRD DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

June 14, MORNING.

The morning session was opened at 11 o'clock with reading of Scripture by Vice-President C. E. Chichester, of South Carolina, and prayer by Peter B. Simons, of Philadelphia, President H. Thane Miller in the chair. The hymn,

"There is a Name I Love to Hear,"

was sung by the Convention. The Minutes of the Evening Session were read and approved, after which Prof. Taylor, of And-

over Theological Seminary, by request, made a short address as follows:

Bretheren and Friends.—I will not occupy a moment of your time needlessly. I am very much obliged for the opportunity, however, to express to you the interest that we feel at Andover in this gathering. At our meeting for conference and prayer on the night before last, special prayer was made for the young men assembled here. It is a custom with us in Andover that those who have colored their hair white instead of black shall undertake to teach young men. But when we go out of Andover we are very willing to be taught by young men; and we are rejoiced by the opportunity to learn the tenor and spirit of this meeting. Will you, brethren and friends, all pray for the young men at Andover while pursuing their studies?

May I direct your attention for a moment to the history of one young man as an encouragement to you to pray for our students. He is a native of Japan. Eight years ago there was an inextinguishable curiosity in his soul that led him to exile himself from home and to seek this country. And it was brought about in this way: He was a student in the Japanese schools, and an atlas was put into his hands in the Chinese language, that was prepared by one of our missionaries, in which he saw a map of and statement in regard to this country. From that moment he was yearning to come here. He soon after came upon some fragments of the Bible printed in the Chinese language, which he was able to read. The first sentences arrested his attention particularly: "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." He thought instantly—What a Being God is! How I ought to come to Him! He must have made me! How I ought to serve and worship Him! He did not learn from those fragments that he might pray to Him. He sailed from Japan, exiled himself from his country, exposing himself and his whole family to a savage crucifixion by that act of self-expatriation, according to the Japanese law at that time. He came to this country, landing at Boston. There he lay about the ship and wharves for some ten weeks feeling for the hand of God—this God of whom he had learned something, and to whom he did not know he might pray. One day he purchased a copy of "Robinson Crusoe," in English, he having begun to learn the English language a little. There he saw that Robinson Crusoe prayed. Then he said, "I may pray." He began, and his prayer day after day was mainly this: "Lord, don't let me get into a miserable condition; Lord, help me to accomplish my aim,"—which was to get an education. When the owner of the vessel in which he came, heard the young man's story, he sent him to school, securing to him the best private tuition, and paid all his expenses. Before two years had ended, that young man professed his faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, having been led by the Spirit of God to accept Christ as revealed in the New Testament. Then he went to Amherst and spent three years in scientific study; then he came to Andover, hoping and praying that the doors in his country might be opened to enable him to return and preach the Gospel. When the Japanese Embassy came to Washington, this young man was sent for in order to be made acquainted with them. Within a week he was engaged by the Commissioner of Education to act as his assistant in interpreting; the work devolved upon him by the Japanese Government. So he began to visit all the great schools of the nation. A few weeks ago he sailed with this Commissioner to visit the schools of France, Great Britain and Germany. By the providence of God he has been wonderfully prepared for the shaping of the

whole educational work of the Japanese Government. Already he has in his hands the commission to labor in Japan for the cause of Christ. Since he was engaged in this work it is reported that the laws in Japan which were obstructing the preaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ have been removed. And he desires to take back as many as he can with him for this mission. One young man from our own seminary has been commissioned to go out to Japan. Is not this a return to the days of Abraham and Moses? Called to go out from his kindred to a land where God would show him? Is there not here encouragement to pray, believing that the providence of God will work by the Spirit of God in answering our prayers?

"Rescue the Perishing" was then sung, followed by a prayer by Rev. M. L. Gordon, Missionary to Japan.

The different sections, into which the Convention had been divided, from 9 to 11 A. M., then reported the result of their deliberations as follows:

Hon. C. C. Lathrop, of Newark, N. J., read the report of the meeting of Presidents and Ex-Presidents of Associations represented in this Convention. This section organized by the choice of C. C. Lathrop as Chairman, and H. M. Wheeler, of Worcester, as Secretary. The results of the meeting, as summed up, were as follows:

1st. That it is indispensable that the President of each Association should take the whole responsibility of the work of the Association, and see that the different Committees, through their Chairmen, perform the work assigned them, or put in their places persons who will.

2d. That it is indispensable to secure the hearty co-operation of the clergy, and show them, by the action of the Association, that it is subordinate to the Church in its work of saving souls.

3d. That a certain number should band themselves together to maintain the Association as a permanency, and furnish or secure the requisite pecuniary aid to this end.

4th. It was resolved to ask for another meeting of this character before the adjournment of the Convention.

Rev. W. H. Anderson, of Providence, read the following report from the "Superintendent's or General Secretary's section:"

R. R. McBurney was Chairman, and Rev. W. H. Anderson, Secretary, of this section. The five following questions were discussed:

1. What work is done by the Secretaries inside the rooms?
2. What work is done by the Secretaries outside the rooms?
3. What hours are the Secretaries at the rooms?
4. What relations do the Secretaries sustain toward the raising of funds for the maintenance of the rooms?
5. What relations do the Secretaries sustain toward the Board of Managers?

The following was elicited as the sense of the meeting:

As regards the first question, it was stated that their work was to have a general oversight, and the welcoming of strangers.

As regards the second question, it was found that six were engaged in missionary work generally, and fifteen in the distinctive work of looking after young men.

As regards the third question, it was stated that the Secretaries should be at the rooms as much as possible, and especially in the evening, as young men are most likely to be at leisure at that time.

As regards the fifth question, it was stated that eleven were active members of the Board, and thirteen were members *ex-officio*.

The section decided to have a complete list of names of all Secretaries for general use.

The section recommend to the Convention,

1st. That one whole session of next Convention be set apart for meeting by sections.

2d. That all Associations employing a Secretary adopt a uniform title, viz., "General Secretary."

3d. That frequent correspondence and interchange of documents between the different Secretaries be engaged in throughout the year.

P. Skinner, Jr. read the following report of the meeting of "Board of Managers Section." Russell Sturgis, Jr., of Boston, was chosen Chairman. Twenty-seven Associations were represented. The following questions were considered:

1st. How many Associations have not meetings once a month? Five.

2d. How is the Board of Managers constituted? Twelve select one from each evangelical society. Six select the best men without reference to denominations. The remainder select a certain number from each denomination.

3d. Do any Associations allow non-evangelical (active) members? Answer, none.

4th. In how many towns are there independent Church Associations called Y. M. C. A.? Answer, six, as follows: Montreal, Halifax, Toronto, Detroit, Portland, Me., Philadelphia.

5th. How many Associations have Special Committees to attend to Mission Schools? Answer, seven.

F. L. Hitchcock, of Scranton, Pa., offered the following resolution, which was carried by an almost unanimous vote:

"Resolved, That in selecting Boards of Managers, the National Convention recommend the different Associations that they select *active, working* members having reference as far as practicable to the representation of each evangelical denomination, but that no constitutional restrictions be permitted to stand in the way of securing active working Christians in these Boards."

There was much discussion as to the best means of securing larger attendance at Boards, whether tea should be provided or not.

After having asked the Chairman of the Business Committee for further time, if practicable, during the session of the Convention, the meeting adjourned.

George D. Stroud, Secretary of the Delegate's Section, read a report of the meeting. Peter B. Simons, of Philadelphia, was Chairman of the Section.

The following resolutions were adopted and directed to be reported to the Convention. On motion of George D. Stroud, it was

Resolved, That we recommend that every Association endeavor to form a Y. M. C. A. among the German, French, and other foreigners, or if the town is too small to form separate Associations, that Committees be appointed to carry on work and hold meetings in their language.

Rev. J. E. Twitchell, of Cleveland, offered the following :

Resolved, That this Convention is in hearty, earnest, and living sympathy with all judicious endeavors to suppress the crying evil of Intemperance ; that it is the accepted duty of each member of every Association of the land to labor in this direction ; to seek helpful legislation in this direction, and to employ the full force of the law as it exists or shall be enacted.

Rev. J. W. Willett, of Providence, offered the following :

Resolved, That we esteem it the duty of every Christian to totally abstain from the use of alcoholic liquors as a beverage.

Rev. T. A. Fernley, of Philadelphia, offered the following :

Resolved, That this International Y. M. C. A. Convention pledges itself to resist to the utmost, all attempts that have been made, or that may be made to exclude the Word of God from the Public Schools of this nation ; and that where it is excluded we will use special efforts to put the Bible in every Roman Catholic family.

All these resolutions were referred to the Committee on Resolutions by the Convention, without debate.

The 5th topic, "*Lectures and Lecturers*," was opened by Rev. Wm M. Martin, of Brooklyn.

I suppose the subject, "*Lectures and Lecturers*," includes the desirableness of lectures in connection with our Associations, and the kind of lectures and lecturers most to be desired.

On this subject, the facts in connection with our own unequalled experiment and success will present the best solution we can offer.

Three years ago the Brooklyn Young Men's Christian Association called together the leading clergy, public educators and business men of our City to answer the question, "What can we do besides what we are now doing, to save

the young men and women of Brooklyn from the tides of sensualism and ruin of all kinds which are increasingly pouring in upon us?" We knew that we could not scold young men out of bad places; that to draw or to keep them out we must present before them *some effectual counter attraction*. We saw that one of the greatest sources through which the devil was employing millions of money to ruin our young men was their ignorance; that entering upon business life in their teens, like wild asses' colts, knowing nothing; having no facilities to develop their intellectual capacities, or to gain instruction, they knew not what to do with themselves out of business hours, and were drawn by every debasing allurements which was set for them into the vortex of inevitable destruction. Believing that what God has made as food for the human mind is its proper aliment, that if brought in a popular taking form it would have a powerful effect in attracting, instructing and ennobling young men, we resolved that, as soon as we could, we would add to our other Association work a "Cooper Union" course of most popular, attractive, scientific lectures and experiments and class instruction, which should be entirely free to all, male or female, who were or would become members of our Association.

We then obtained a new charter, incorporating in our Board of Directors the two leading ministers of each Evangelical denomination, the leading public educators and several of our leading business men, who at once arranged a course of the most attractive, popular, scientific lectures, illustrated by splendid experiments and diagrams imparting *the best thought of our time by the best thinkers*, and unequalled by any in our country, or, so far as we know, in any other. These lectures were not to be delivered in a dry, technical form, but we were to secure at whatever consideration required, and from the remotest distance if necessary, that scientist in his particular department who is not only distinguished for thorough culture, but who can charm with anecdote, illustrations, and possesses simple colloquial methods of putting the grandest truths. All this we have done. We have even rendered "Facts about the Mind" as taking as a novel. This curriculum covers a period of five years, and we have now associated with it thirteen subjects of the highest order of class instruction, taught by ten as able professional teachers as our City and New York affords.

The very first season was an entire success. We have had our hall crowded. More have been excluded for want of room than have been able to get in. We have now conducted these series of lectures and class instruction for three years. It is no longer a problem with us how to draw and win our young people. We are driven by the magnitude of this work into one of the largest and finest iron structures of our City, with a hall seating 1,300 persons. Thus, for the trifling membership fee of two dollars a year, we present greater attractions for that which is good and ennobling, than that which is evil can be provided for.

These lectures have produced a hunger for reading which surpasses anything we have seen. We challenge comparison with this fact. We have had 2,500 taking home books to read from a library of 5,000 volumes, beside all who read in the rooms daily from morn to night—Romanists, Jews, as well as Protestant Young People of all classes and both sexes. We have thus drawn directly under the religious, personal influence, and hand to hand, heart to heart effort of our devoted Christian young men, multitudes who otherwise never would have been seen in our rooms, and never would be led to Christ. So much for the style of lectures. Let me here say, that I believe it is the bounden

duty of Associations, if possible, to furnish young men everything which the family, the school, the Church and the State, in their individual capacity fail to do.

This is putting a new phase, a new definition, upon the Associations. Nay, more, God helping us to a new building of our own, we will put into it such a curriculum of study for young men and young women as will enable them to secure as good a culture (by the employment of their evenings) as can be furnished by our best Colleges, giving diplomas on examination, as do the German Universities.

Now, in regard to the lecturers. These have been Christian scientists—men thoroughly equipped for its great battle of the evidences with the positivists—a battle which cannot be fought from the pulpit. It is the conviction of the leading clergy of Brooklyn that our Association has done more through these lectures and this class of eminent Christian scientists to refute these insidious efforts of the materialists of our day than all other instrumentalities combined—lecturers who have at heart the salvation and elevation of our young people, and who are able to inform and fortify them against the most dangerous phase of infidelity with which the Bible and Christianity has been attacked,—that of all others most seductive to young men. Let such lecturers and such educational and attractive lectures be secured by our Associations—make them free to members—and the question before us will be practically answered.

The Business and Devotional Committees reported. Their reports were adopted, and the Convention sang

“Cheer thee, Brother.”

Prayer was offered by Hon. John Hill of N. J. The Benediction was pronounced by Rev. Mr. Martin, and the Convention adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The afternoon session opened at about four o'clock with prayer by Rev. D. Henry Miller, LL. D., of Lowell, followed by singing of the hymn

“Work, for the night is coming,”

President H. Thane Miller in the chair.

After the minutes of the morning session had been read and adopted, F. H. Smith, Chairman of the Committee on the Report of the Executive Committee, read his report and offered the following resolutions, which were voted on *seriatim*.

1. *Resolved*, That, as heretofore, the Associations of the United States and British Provinces be recommended to observe the second Lord's Day in November as a day of Prayer to Almighty God for His blessing upon the work of these Societies throughout the world and upon all efforts for the salvation of young men; and that the Executive Committee request kindred societies in other lands to unite with the Associations of America in the observance of this day.

Adopted.

2. *Resolved*, That until otherwise provided, the Executive Committee be authorized to employ a General Secretary, who shall, under their direction, perform such duties as they may require.

Adopted.

3. *Resolved*, That the Executive Committee be authorized to employ one or more agents for the aggressive work of the Associations, as in their judgment may be required or the means at hand may justify.

Adopted.

4. *Resolved*, That the Executive Committee accredit as delegates the following brethren to represent the Associations of the United States and British Provinces at the General Conference of Young Men's Christian Associations of all lands, to be convened at Amsterdam, in August next, viz. :

Moses W. Pond, Boston; Hon. S. S. Fisher, Cincinnati; Walter S. Thomas, Troy, Ohio; Morris K. Jesup, New York; Richard C. Morse, New York; Robert R. McBurney, New York; C. R. Agnew, M.D., New York; John T. Perry, Cincinnati; Prof. N. Shephard, Chicago; D. L. Moody, Chicago; W. W. Wicks, Brooklyn.

And that the Executive Committee be further authorized to accredit such persons as are members of Associations and desire to attend the Convention.

Adopted.

5. *Resolved*, That the Executive Committee compile and codify from the proceedings of the Annual Conventions since 1863 the various resolutions and declarations relating to the government of the Conventions and Associations connected with them, with the rules of order, which shall be published as the permanent rules of the Young Men's Christian Associations in their associate action.

Adopted.

Resolved, That said Committee also compile the various declarations and deliverances of such Conventions relative to the position, organization, principles and work of Associations, together with such explanations and expositions as they may deem expedient, not inconsistent with the publications heretofore made by said Committee, and that the same be published with the permanent rules as the Manual of Associations heretofore ordered.

Adopted.

6. *Resolved*, That this Convention cordially endorses the conduct of the *Association Monthly* during the past year, and that the Executive Committee be empowered to continue its publication in its present form, or, if in their judgment deemed expedient, to substitute for the same a weekly periodical, having a like general character, provided such change can be made without involving

additional liability on the part of the Committee, and that full authority be given for the adoption of such measures, by increase of subscription rates or otherwise to cover the expense of such publication.

Lewis D. Vail, Philadelphia: I would like to know if it is sustained now?

F. H. Smith, Washington, D. C.:

The Convention will understand that this resolution does not direct a change in the character of the periodical, but only a change from a Monthly to a Weekly. In response to the question of the brother, I would say, those who listen to the report of the Executive Committee will ascertain that, if all the subscriptions made to the "*Association Monthly*" were paid, as it is expected, the *Monthly* will have been self-sustaining. Several of those who have given the matter more attention, believe that a change in the paper from monthly to weekly will make it more likely to be sustained, and will result in a much greater good as the organ of the Convention. This Committee do not feel authorized to decide this question or to make recommendation to the Convention one way or the other. We recognize, as the Convention will recognize, that the issuing of a weekly organ is very necessary, provided it is self-sustaining.

Rev. J. W. Willett, Providence, R. I.:

If the Associations throughout our towns would, instead of spending their time, thought and money, in publishing a good many little matters, bring themselves to devote their whole resources to the production of a periodical such as might be furnished by this organization, they would produce a glorious thing. But we fritter away a great deal of our strength trying to run something that will not run itself. I would hope that there might be such a hearty support when we contribute to make it a strong thing. We want some strong power loyal to us.

W. H. Anderson, Providence, R. I.:

I am opposed to there being any other paper under the auspices of the Young Men's Christian Association than that which is published, for the year to come, at least, for this reason, that, instead of being five or ten Association papers in the different Associations throughout the United States and Canada ought to interest themselves in the circulation of that paper. Thus we could have 100,000 or 125,000 more subscribers. I hope the Associations throughout the land will concentrate their energies towards the circulation of this Association Monthly, and not enervate themselves by trying to issue three or four papers. Let us have a strong paper instead of half a dozen sick weeklies.

President H. Thane Miller:

If there is any one thing above all the other things that interest me in reference to the work of our Associations, it is the publication of our paper. Now I may say that for myself I do hope we have reached that age and feeling of strength when we are prepared to advise a weekly paper. We never shall have the success we might have; never get so close to the understanding of our entire work and be brought together as we can be, as by the publication of a weekly paper. This monthly edition don't come often enough, and then when it comes, it comes too full to me of nothing but Association work. I want

something that will go into the factories, stores, counting-rooms, cars, and everywhere in this continent where there is a young man, and so attractive that he can't do without it. I feel we can make it so. I believe there is money enough in the Christian Associations of this country to establish such a paper. It will cost money. Here when these denominational papers are wanted they spring up; when any kind of a society wants a paper it has money to place it upon its feet. It cannot be possible that such an organization as the Y. M. C. A. is, can be without the means to establish such a paper in this country. Why do we want such a paper? There is a paper for all sorts of people. There are political papers and denominational papers, but of all publications there is not a single weekly paper for young men in America. Not one. It is the widest field in this country. If we do not occupy it, somebody else will. There will be a demand for this weekly. The young men of America are not going to wait for thirty days for a *Monthly*. I only wish that our rich men would give our Executive Committee a publication fund of at least \$50,000, and instruct them to publish a good paper made up of literary and scientific matters, and with all the news that young men can want, in such a concise, brilliant, interesting and attractive way that they would not do without it. I do want that we should emphatically, with a big, *loud* voice tell that Committee, "You go ahead gentlemen and make such a paper." I am quite sure that there are men in our cities who don't know what to do with their money. Get all you can out of them. Go to Philadelphia, Boston, and come last of all to Cincinnati.

Lewis D. Vail, Philadelphia :

I say amen to what you say about the paper, but I feel that this Executive Committee have too much to do, to expect them to get up a paper like that. It would be great expectations unrealized. You have, in order to get up a paper, to have brains and money, and of both a very large amount. You can get the brains if you have the money to do it with. Fifty thousand dollars will not be enough to do it. But this resolution giving them power to act I am willing to vote for, though I think they will have to keep a *Monthly* for the next year at least. So give us a glorious *Monthly*.

Mr. Petit, of Newark, N. J. :

I have heard a great many objections to the *Association Monthly* on account of taking advertisements. It seems to me that a paper which is the representative of the Associations of the country should not be a medium for advertisement.

Mr. Scott, Cincinnati :

I think one trouble about this *Monthly* came up in our General Secretary's meeting this morning. Very few of us knew what work was being done, and how to do it. Would it not be well to have a kind of question drawer in this *Monthly* every month or weekly, every week, so that we who do not know much about the work could have the Executive Committee post us?

W. H. Doane, Cincinnati :

Last year, in our Executive Committee, at Washington, I opposed the Executive Committee somewhat in the management of the *Monthly*. I was very sorry for it afterwards. When I came to realize the amount of labor that was put upon the Executive Committee I saw what they had accomplished. I felt I had judged them wrongfully, and think you make a mistake if you do not make

It a weekly. I am a business man. I know this, that all of you who do any amount of advertising don't want to put it in a paper that comes out three times in a year instead of fifty or three hundred and sixty-five, and you can't run this paper without advertisements. Issue a weekly and it will almost pay its expenses. If the Executive Committee, after looking the ground over, are willing to undertake to publish a weekly, assuming the responsibility, let them.

W. C. Rowand, Howard University :

I suppose our *Monthly* is for the purpose of bringing young men to Christ. Well, in our reading-room we have this paper, but the students say they are not interested in it. They desire to see some Christian news, something besides reports from Associations; the questions of the day, political and scientific. Such discussions I think would increase the number of subscribers, and I think it would be beneficial to make it a weekly paper.

Jay W. Cowdery, Detroit, Michigan :

I would like to amend this resolution; instead of making it a weekly to make it a tri-weekly. The fact is, this Association *Monthly*, as it now stands, is not worth ten cents a ton, for the reason just stated. It gives monthly all the news about Association work. Now Christ came not to save the righteous, but sinners. It is that class we want to reach; not the young men of the Association, but those out of the Association. We have got to make that a paper for the times, and to take the times as they are, and not as we wish them to be, to make it attractive, by giving them science and literature, something that will induce them to read it. Then it must come more often than monthly, and must be made more attractive than it is now. As business men, when we pay for an advertisement we want some paper that appears often. We pay for advertisements where we get value received.

R. Weidensall, Omaha :

The American people cannot read anything over a week old. I believe if you get the paper into a weekly you will accomplish a great deal more. The people will read it and understand our Association better. Some of the Associations say we do not understand how to work. Tell them the *Monthly* contains such information. "We never see that paper." I believe a weekly will circulate more and pay better, and bring more members into the Association.

Rev. M. Fink, Johnstown, Pa. :

I regard this as one of the most important questions that has as yet come before this Convention. The state of the literature in our country has assumed a magnitude and importance that ought to cause every Christian man to stand still at least for a time, and think. Now, what I wish to say to this Convention is simply this: Let us give this matter due consideration. I believe in all that has been said in regard to the *Monthly* as to its influence, what it has done and what it is calculated to do. Then there is another thought. The organizations in the country seem to feel the necessity of having an organ. That may be well enough, but it depends upon the character of the organ. Let us deliberate now and conclude to have no paper unless the very best that can be gotten up. We have trouble now with literature in the Sunday school, in the newspapers and everywhere. The literature of our day is becoming so corrupting in its influence, so deleterious that one news establishment in any town or city does more injury ten thousand times than ten liquor or beer saloons, because it poisons the

soul. When I see little girls and boys, old men and women catching up the literature that is thrown before them, it makes me tremble. Now let us, if possible, get a better paper than the Church publications, or that of any other organization in the land. Let it be a religious paper, a Christian paper for Young Men's Christian Associations. Let us never lose sight of that word. That gives character and tone to the paper we publish.

Cephas Brainierd, New York :

What I have to say relates, of course, to the views of the work entertained by the present Executive Committee, and will be in reply to what has been said on this floor, and it is to be said in the plainest, soberest way.

First, no member of the Executive Committee ever desired to have any advertisements in the paper. If we could have got along without any advertisements, none of us would ever have solicited friends in New York to put them in. We could not carry on the paper without them. If the brethren had been true to their allegiance, it never would have been necessary for us to go the merchants and bankers in New York and other cities to ask them to advertise.

Another thing ; for the last four years it would not have been in the power of the Executive Committee as it was constituted, and with the money it had in the treasury, to have carried on the work which the Associations had committed to it, without the paper—and I mean the paper just as it now is. In my sober judgment, with the experience I have had in this work, I say that under God, the buildings that grace the land as the property of these Associations, and the building funds that have been accumulated as well, would never have existed if it had not been for the influence of this paper, contemptible as it is, when compared with the power of the Associations to make it equal the demands made upon them. [Applause.]

I go further. No man here is more in earnest than the members of the Committee have been in the desire to have a paper which should fitly represent the Associations in the majestic and mighty mission which God has committed to them in this land. We have talked, we have written, to the end that we might come before the Convention before we laid down our trust, with such a paper as every man in the Convention would approve ; as to which all could hold up in their hands and say, "That meets precisely the want of the young men of America." And if we have not succeeded in that, it is because men cannot do but just so much work in a day. There is a limit to every man's power of service, and we lament very much that ours was not greater ; but we have done what we could towards it, and hope the next set of men can take it up and push it forward to success. Brother Miller's idea is right, and he offered \$10,000 from Cincinnati towards the fund for establishing such a paper as he describes. I presume the offer stands good to-day. We are ready to match it with a fair sum from the City of New York.

Rev. C. M. Winchester, of Providence, moved that the resolution be laid on the table for one year, which was lost, and the discussion of the original resolution continued by

James Baylis, of Montreal :

I have heard it stated on this floor that it is one of the missions of the Association to do what they can to root out the pernicious literature flooding the

land. One of the best ways to do it, I take it, would be to give a better thing. Things that will meet the wants of intellectual men, and satisfy the desires of the most aspiring heart. I feel, if the funds can be forthcoming, there are men there well able to control the funds, and the paper can be established.

H. L. Hastings, Boston :

It is not possible to have a paper of the size of the monthly publication meet these two demands. If it is to be an organ of the Associations, and give what they are doing, it cannot be a paper of general literature, science and art. The Association must have an organ; you have heard that point well met by Mr. Brainerd. The other point, furnishing a literature for the people, is one of vast importance. I don't know how many there are that appreciate it. The only way to stem this tide of devilish literature that floods the land, sweeping men to ruin, is by pouring a living tide of Christian life and truth by means of the public press of the land speaking to the characteristics of youth. The press speaks to millions, and the press needs a mighty infusion of the divine power of Gospel truth. I should hope to see such a weekly as has been spoken of; not to supercede the monthly in its place and work. Perhaps no weekly could answer this purpose of doing its work. I tell you, when our hearts are waked up to the needs of this work, it will not take long to put that weekly in the field, if the Providence of God opens our hearts enough to give the needed money. And the Associations have ample means to scatter it all over the continent. It requires work rather than wealth. I trust it will be done. Something is being done in this direction. Oh! that it may be speedily accomplished.

John R. Dougall, Montreal :

I am very much obliged to the last speaker for the distinction he has drawn between an organ which is a means of advertising certain Associations or work, and that newspaper which is meant to give good literature to the masses. I can hardly agree with our friend, Bro. Brainerd, that there is a lack of loyalty, for in the midst of multiplicity of reading furnished us in our day, we do not find it a matter of special interest to turn over column after column of similar reports, from a great variety of Associations. I do believe your organ will never be an efficient organ unless it be a most interesting paper for the class of people it is intended for; the cheapest paper besides.

Rev. N. Cyr, Rutland, Vt., spoke in favor of the Associations subscribing to the "Daily Witness," of New York.

F. H. Smith, Washington, D. C. :

A good many of us will remember that three years ago the discussion at Indianapolis in regard to the money to establish the *Association Monthly* then published, it was stated that we did not want literature, stories, etc. That our homes were flooded with such literature and stories, and general religious intelligence. What we wanted was to know what the Associations were doing. We wanted an Association paper that would give us the intelligence of what Associations are doing all over the United States and the Provinces. And this Executive Committee followed what they understood to be the instructions of that Convention in issuing such a paper. Now let me say one word in regard to the financial aspect of this paper. We are by and by to take up subscriptions to the General Fund of this Executive Committee. 180,000 members of

Young Men's Christian Associations in the United States and British Provinces, is it possible that only three or four thousand of these want an Association paper which gives them intelligence of the Association and goes no further? If you will increase this subscription to 20,000 or 25,000 at the present rate of subscription you will not only enable this Executive Committee to make this a paper that will compare with the best religious papers, but will put money enough into their hands to carry the whole expense of their work. I want brethren to remember that when we are taking up our subscriptions for the expenses.

After the reading of the resolution again by the request of Mr. Hutchins, of New York, it was adopted.

"Where Shall I Work to-day,"

was then sung by a Quartette led by Mr. W. H. Doane.

7. *Resolved*, That the following be adopted, and added to the Rules of the Convention :

RULE:—An Executive Committee, to consist of seven members, shall be appointed by the Convention, to continue in office for three years, and until their successors are appointed, whose duty it shall be to prepare and bring before each Convention business for its consideration ; to transact after the adjournment of such Convention any business entrusted to its charge ; to arrange for transportation, at reduced rates, of persons attending Conventions ; and who may, upon an emergency requiring immediate action, adopt such measures as may be necessary, not inconsistent with the action of preceding Conventions, reporting the same to the next succeeding Convention for its approval: The ordinary sessions of the Executive Committee shall be held in the City of New York.

Adopted.

8. **RULE.**—Each Convention shall appoint one Corresponding Member from each State, District, Territory and Province, who shall be its local representative, and shall, under the direction and advice of the Executive Committee, communicate with each Association within his respective jurisdiction, and with any general organization thereof ; and who shall perform any duty in relation thereto which the Convention or Committee may require.

Adopted.

9. **RULE.**—A meeting of the Executive Committee and Corresponding Members, for consultation and to secure united action, shall be held during this session, or immediately on the adjournment thereof ; and said Committee and Corresponding Members shall hold at least one other meeting during each year, at such time and place as the Executive Committee may designate ; and to secure a full attendance at such meeting, the general organization of each State, Territory and Province is requested to make provision for defraying the traveling expenses of its Corresponding Member to and from the place of meeting.

Adopted.

10. *Resolved*, That this Convention recognizing the difficult, delicate and arduous duties devolved upon the Executive Committee, expresses its thanks to the brethren who during the past six years have constituted that Committee,

for their able, faithful and efficient services, to which in a large measure is due the wonderful advance during that period in numbers and usefulness of our organizations.

Resolved, That Cephas Brainerd, James Stokes, Jr., Timothy G. Sellw, Jr., Robert R. McBurney, Edgar A. Hutchins, Benjamin R. Wetmore and Verranus Morse be reappointed as the Executive Committee for the ensuing three years.

W. H. Anderson, Providence, R. I. :

I ask every single member of the Convention as honorable Christian gentlemen, where is the wisdom of keeping the head-quarters for three years longer in New York City? Are there no brains and money in Cincinnati, Boston and Philadelphia? I want to know why these men are put in office again? Have they been consulted? It is hard work and a laborious office, and it seems to me their feelings should be regarded about this matter, or the best interests of the Association. I do not assign to New York all the brains. They have got plenty of money and plenty of brains there too. I say let these things go around the Associations all over the land.

F. H. Smith, Washington, D. C. :

In reply to this brother, I want to express what is the unanimous opinion of this Committee on the Report of the Executive Committee, and that formed from the knowledge we have of the labors of these gentlemen during the last three years. We did not know where to get a sufficient number of gentlemen who would devote the time and labor to this cause, which will be of equal value to the services of these seven gentlemen in New York, and this is the reason for the recommendation of the Committee.

Cephas Brainerd, New-York :

With regard to the gentlemen who for six years have done the work of this Committee, I can say that not one of them wanted the Committee located in New York when the appointment was made at Albany, and none of them wished the action of the Portland Convention when it continued the Committee in New York. Not one desires, not one of us expected when we came here that the suggestion would be made to us that we should continue in this work. We thought it would be the feeling of the Committee on our Report, and of the brethren of the Convention, that these seven men who have the ordinary responsibilities of young men, and who have for six years given up all the time they could steal from their business; the time that belonged to social life; the time which otherwise would have been given to study; the best six years of their lives, ought not to be asked to continue for another three years. We felt we had done our work.

I do not propose to speak of the very great affection which I have for this work. Nor can I attempt to describe the affection with which the brethren with whom I have labored regard it. Nor of the love which we all have for the brethren with whom we have shared this work the continent over.

When the Chairman of the Committee came to us to ask us if we would continue for three years more to carry on this work, we told him this: "If the Convention will vote a Secretary to carry on the correspondence we will consider it." When we began at Albany I could correspond myself with all the Associations, and I did it. It is impossible to do it now. I say to you, brethren, on behalf of the old Committee, that we do not think it would be proper for us to continue in this position for three years more. We ask the Convention to discharge us

without discussion, and to select some other place for the work of the Committee, and some other men to do it. The New York Association did not ask it at the outset; has not asked its continuance. It has taken seven of our best men from the active participation in their home-work. I believe the New York Association has given the men and more than one-quarter of the money required to carry on this general work, and it does not ask that this honor be put upon it again. Therefore, I say I would like the Convention to discharge the present Committee and locate it in another place, and we certainly will render to that Committee all the co-operation and the service in our power. [Applause.]

Lewis D. Vail, of Philadelphia, moved that the resolutions be divided, and each resolution voted on separately, which was carried, and the first of the two resolutions was unanimously adopted.

Cephas Brainerd moved the following:

Resolved, That this resolution be recommitted to the Committee on the Report, with directions to locate the Executive Committee in another city than New York, and nominate new members for the same.

C. C. Lathrop, of Newark, N. J., spoke:

I hope that resolution offered by Mr. Brainerd will not pass. I am sure no such wrong action and probably unadvised course as that ought to be taken. I, however, do believe that these gentlemen should not have another three years of this responsibility and labor imposed upon them, after having served with such efficiency for the six years past. I do believe that new blood should be infused into the organization of the Committee in the course of time as other Associations or Societies find it suitable to do. I believe that Boston could furnish one at least of this Committee, and Philadelphia furnish another, thereby disseminating it from one city to another. In that way, new ideas, new thoughts would be brought in to co-operate with these able men. We are very likely to run into ruts when we run for nine years on the same track. I hope by all means the head of this Committee will be in New York, and that these able men will be retained in New York.

Dr. Carey, of Ohio, moved to lay the resolution offered by Mr. Brainerd on the table, which was carried.

W. H. Anderson moved that an Executive Committee of one from Boston, one from New York, one from Philadelphia, &c., be appointed, after which B. F. Jacobs, of Chicago, spoke:

Do not forget that the Corresponding Members are from every State in the Union and every Province of the Dominion. They are to all intents and purposes members of the Executive Committee. I think there is but one place in America, where the Executive Committee could with any propriety be located, and that is in the City of New York. It is there above all, and beyond all other places in this country that we can meet the Executive Committee, and come into direct personal contact with the members who are managing this work of the Associations.

This is simply the head of the committee; the body extends over the length and breadth of the land. There is one other thing, I believe in this infusion of new blood, and I believe it is best to send it from the heart of America into

the brains of this Executive Committee. They feel they have done their work, and they have done it unquestionably well in the past, (applause) and I feel that there is no good reason why we should not help them better in the three years to come. Then let us for Christ's and our own sake, do as this Committee, who have brought in these nominations and who know the men individually, recommend. The Corresponding Members for the States, Territories, and Provinces are the representatives of their section. It seems to me it will be the most foolish and unwise thing at this hour to change the Executive Committee. We have twice tried and found them faithful men, wanting in no good word or work (applause).

And this resolution was voted down.

The second of the two resolutions, as originally offered by the Committee, was then adopted.

B. F. Jacobs, of Chicago, offered prayer, and the hymn "Jesus, keep me near the Cross," was sung.

Cephas Brainerd, of New York :

I want to say that those members of the Executive Committee who are here will confer together between this and the evening, and then announce to you the course they will take.

11. Your Committee recommend the election of the following as Corresponding Members of the Executive Committee for the respective States, Districts, Territories and Provinces :

- 1.—Geo. W. Garcelon, Lewiston, Maine.
- 2.—Joshua Clawson, St. John, New Brunswick.
- 3.—Frank D. Taylor, Detroit, Michigan.
- 4.—Rev. H. B. Underwood, Hillsboro Bridge, New Hampshire.
- 5.—Rev. S. A. Taggart, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.
- 6.—J. A. Beecher, Trenton, New Jersey.
- 7.—E. D. Reade, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
- 8.—George A. Young, Hamilton, Ontario.
- 9.—E. R. Holden, Providence, Rhode Island.
- 10.—H. P. Lloyd, Cincinnati, Ohio.
- 11.—Newton Fuller, New London, Connecticut.
- 12.—Rev. Geo. A. Hall, Washington, D. C.
- 13.—J. H. Cranston, Augusta, Georgia.
- 14.—H. L. McKee, Selma, Alabama.
- 15.—James Farquhar, Halifax, Nova Scotia.
- 16.—Erskine Uhl, Poughkeepsie, New York.
- 17.—Alvaro F. Gibbens, Charleston, West Virginia.
- 18.—A. H. Nelson, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- 19.—Levi P. Rowland, Boston, Massachusetts.
- 20.—R. H. T. Hudson, Raleigh, North Carolina.
- 21.—Rev. C. E. Chichester, Columbia, South Carolina.
- 22.—J. L. Wheat, Louisville, Kentucky.
- 23.—Geo. R. Hill, Alexandria, Virginia.
- 24.—John E. Burson, Bristol, Tennessee.
- 25.—J. D. Blake, Rochester, Minnesota.
- 26.—Charles Palmer, Charlottetown, Prince Edwards Island.

27.—C. L. Robinson, Jacksonville, Florida.

28.—W. S. Wooten, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Resolution adopted.

13. *Resolved*, That the Committee on the Report of the Executive Committee be permitted to receive at the close of this session, from the delegations from States, Districts, Territories and Provinces for which corresponding members have not been appointed, nominations for such corresponding members and in their discretion, recommend them to the Executive Committee for appointment: and that the Executive Committee have power to fill vacancies among the corresponding members.

Adopted.

13. *Resolved*, That the report of the Treasurer of the Executive Committee be approved and audited and printed with the report in the Proceedings of the Convention.

Adopted.

14. *Resolved*, That the Executive Committee prepare and publish a report of the Proceedings of this Convention, including the report of the Executive Committee.

Adopted.

15. *Resolved*, That the Executive Committee be instructed to call a meeting of the International Convention of 1873 at the city State of
at such time as shall be agreed upon by them after consultation with the Association in that city.

16. *Resolved*. That this Convention now proceed to take up a subscription for general expenses, also one for printed copies of the Proceedings of this Convention and for the Association.

On motion of P. B. Simons, of Philadelphia, this was made the special business for to-morrow, at 10½ A.M.

17. *Resolved*, That the Executive Committee be authorized to correspond with Associations not represented in this Convention, for the purpose of obtaining additional subscriptions to the general fund.

Adopted.

The report as a whole, as read and as amended, was adopted.

The Business Committee recommend that this evening's Session, to be held in Huntington Hall, at 7½ o'clock, commence with the presentation of the following topic: "*How can Christian homes be rendered most serviceable in restraining young men from evil, and in winning them to Christ?*" To be opened in a fifteen minutes address by Rev. Dr. Pratt, of Portsmouth, Ohio, after which, the subject to be thrown open for free discussion, to close at nine o'clock, to be followed by an Association service of song, to continue 30 minutes, led by Prof. W. H. Doane.

Adjourn at 9.30 o'clock.

J. H. Cheever, Chairman.

"A charge to keep-I have"

was then sung, and after prayer and benediction by the Rev. Thos. W. Hooper, of Lynchburg, Va., the Convention adjourned till evening.

EVENING SESSION.

The Convention met at 8 P.M., in Huntington Hall, President H. Thane Miller in the chair. Rev. Jas. Chester, of Cincinnati, read a selection from the Scriptures, and Rev. George S. Chadbourne, of Lowell, offered prayer.

Cephas Brainerd, of New York, read the following communication from the Executive Committee :

"To the 17th Annual Convention of the Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces :

The undersigned, unanimously elected this afternoon as members of the Executive Committee for the ensuing three years, beg leave to say to the Convention that they have prayerfully (and as carefully as the time since the adjournment would allow) considered the question of the propriety of their accepting the appointment, and they have reached the conclusion (not without pain to themselves, for they love the work) that they are called upon to decline it. Thanking the brethren most heartily for their confidence and regard, as evidenced by their votes to-day, as well as by their unfailing kindness exhibited during the six years that are gone, they make the following requests :

1. That they may be empowered to issue the July and August numbers of the Association Monthly.
2. That they be empowered to prepare and issue the usual abstract of the Proceedings of this Convention.
3. That they be empowered to audit and pay the bills incident to this Convention.
4. And that they be instructed to hand over to the new Committee all the property of the associated Societies in their hands, and that the new Committee be authorized to adjust the accounts.

The undersigned are authorized to speak for their colleagues not now present.

Respectfully submitted,

CEPHAS BRAINERD,
JAMES STOKES, JR.,
T. G. SELLEW, JR.,
R. R. MCBURNEY,
EDGAR A. HUTCHINS.

June 14th, 1872.

Rev. J. W. Hamilton, of Somerville, Mass., moved that it be not accepted. Motion seconded, and he spoke in support of it as follows :

I live very near to Boston. Boston of course is the "Hub of the Universe." Somebody says—except Lowell; and every good thing originates in Boston—except Lowell; and of course if any jealousy ought to be felt with regard to what New York should do, or New York should have, that jealousy ought to originate in the city of Boston—except Lowell. And I think that I speak freely the sentiment of the representatives in that section if not from the city, when I express it as my conviction that from what has transpired it certainly is not the time for us to accept the resignation of this Executive Committee. I am indeed very well pleased with the careful and prayerful conclusion that we have received from the Executive Committee; & so, I am glad to know that it has been carefully and prayerfully considered; and yet it is so recently after the discussion this afternoon which has very likely excited the very sensitive sensibilities of our friends from New York, I fear there has not been sufficient prayer on this subject, however much care there has been. I do not know but what it might be equally well for this Convention to have some prayer as well as these brethren. Now I am perfectly satisfied with the action of our Executive Committee at New York. I feel that whatever may have been the dissatisfaction, murmur, grumblings, it has not come from individuals acquainted with their work; and we are perfectly satisfied to let the brethren who have acted as members of the Executive Committee for the Associations, have the ensuing three years to come, as we have been pleased with their success in the six years that are passed. These brethren very likely feel, from what was said this afternoon, that it would be desirable to have some other parts of the country represented in this Committee, and that some or all of the brethren should retire from this Executive Committee. But, Sir, if I was persuaded before that something should be done with the resignation or removal of men from this Committee, at this time, after what has transpired, as a member of the Convention, I should be certainly dissatisfied if we should accept their resignation. We are not here to force these brethren out of the position they occupy; but there is, as is seen, a sensitiveness among these brethren from what we have heard in the discussion this afternoon. Nor are we prepared to receive the resignation of these gentlemen and throw all this business upon the Convention at this time, not upon a new Committee. Now I think if we make any arrangement with regard to a change, it would be well if we should have representatives from some other parts of the country with some members of the Executive Committee to remain, and not to have the Committee all retire in a body. I hope this Convention will not accept the resignation of the Committee.

P. B. Simons, of Philadelphia, moved that the question be postponed till to-morrow. Seconded and lost.

J. S. McLean, of Halifax, N. S. :

I think this is a very serious matter. I don't think we are prepared to take this into consideration to-night. I do not wonder at the action of these gentlemen, for this reason; They have worked for six years, day after day and night after night for the good of this cause. They have, to a large extent, been the means of building it up, I consider, to its present usefulness. The various mem-

bers divided up the work and worked at it manfully and nobly, and have done all in their power, far more than ever I have done when I take into consideration their own private interest and business. Can you expect that they would lightly take the proposition that they should be contented with the noblest vote of thanks, and this whole work which they have managed for six years, have thrown into other hands? My brethren consider this matter in harmony. We are here in this Convention, the smallest we have had for many years. Now are we on account of any little feeling got up here, going to imperil the interests of this great and glorious work? We are commencing a real campaign. We want this Executive Committee for three years. I say let us unanimously to-night, by a standing vote, say we will not accept their resignation, (Great Applause,) because we dearly love the Association and because it will be the outspoken sentiment of every heart that we dearly love every man of that Executive Committee. (Renewed Applause.)

A standing vote was taken on the Rev. J. W. Hamilton's motion, and it was unanimously carried. After singing

"Praise God from whom all blessings flow,"

prayer was offered by Pres. H. Thane Miller, and the hymn

"More love to Thee, O Christ,"

was sung by the Convention.

The topic, "*How can Christian Homes be rendered most serviceable in restraining young men from evil and in winning them to Christ?*" was opened in a fifteen minute address by Rev. E. P. Pratt, D. D., of Portsmouth, Ohio.

The question now is, how can these Christian homes of ours be utilized? We utilize everything in this day. We judge all things very much by their utility. A man after going to Niagara Falls sat down and calculated the amount of water power—how many spindles could be turned by that power.

How can Christian homes be made more serviceable in restraining young men from evil and leading them to Christ? I would answer, First, let these Christian homes be made bright and cheerful. All Christians are not what they ought to be. Sometimes religion has worn a stern, severe and forbidding aspect. I would not perhaps agree with some who would introduce what to me seem questionable forms of amusement—who would have the card table introduced into the parlor and a billiard saloon connected with a Christian family. My views on this subject differ from some of my neighbors. My associations in all those things have not been favorable. There is no odor of sanctity about them to me.

In the last place let Christian parents realize how much they owe to Christ, and let the love of Christ, the grand motive that should influence us in all that we do, constrain them. Let them extend their influence to young men—unite them to their homes when they can. I believe in leveling; but in leveling up, not down. It seems to me that we are too selfish even in our Christianity. I know there is something about home very sacred. We do not like to have a stranger, or persons that do not exactly move in the same circle we move, to sit down at the same board and mingle with our families. Are we not to blame in this? Would it injure a merchant or others to invite home once in a while those who are engaged in their employ? They would respect him more and respect themselves more. The young men would remember it. When a young

man I was amongst strangers in the South, and I shall never forget the kindness of one man there, who took me into his home—I was engaged in teaching—and he treated me as if I had been a brother or son. That man's name and kindness are indelibly written on my heart and I can never be sufficiently grateful to him.

Rev. Mr. Willett:

How to make the religion of the home useful? Well, use religion at home; make a practical use of your Christian faith. Ask Divine direction about family affairs; small matters. Let the children see and understand that you believe in the privilege of having Divine direction about little things. This taking great things to God and leaving the small matters is a great mistake. And then, further, practically depend on God for comfort in little troubles as well as in great ones.

Anthony Comstock, Brooklyn, N. Y., next addressed the Convention.

J. C. Jerome, New York:

I am glad of this opportunity. I speak in behalf of the young men that have no homes. I want to say to you, that those who have been able to make their homes happy ought to bring in these young men who have no homes. Don't be afraid, even though you do not know their characters, whether they have stood respectably for years past or not. I know what it is, from my own experience of the feeling of home-sickness that possesses a young man, leaving home behind him, who perhaps has lost his mother in his childhood, and may have had no sisters at all, with none of this woman's love which young men especially need.

At 9.15 P.M., a service of song was begun under the direction of Prof. W. H. Doane, assisted by the following volunteer choir: Miss A. L. Eaton, Miss A. J. Omen, Miss Harriet Eaton, Mrs. Ricks, Geo. D. Wilby, and Mr. Wint, of Lowell. The Rev. Mr. Chester read the Psalm "O praise God in His Holiness," and the exercises continued until 10 P.M. when the Chairman of the Transportation Committee made some announcements.

The Business Committee also made the following report for the morning, which was adopted:

The Business Committee recommend as the order of to-morrow morning, that in response to a general request from those who attended the sectional meetings this morning, that similar meetings be held in the same rooms in the Hurd Street Methodist Church, as before, at 8 o'clock A.M.

At the regular session, 9.30, it is recommended that opportunity be given to J. M. Cowder, of Detroit, to return thanks for contributions to the sufferers in the North-West.

Topic No. 3 be taken-up, "The qualifications and duties of a General Secretary, in and what Associations is such an office necessary."

To be opened by Rev. S. A. Taggart, of Penn., and followed by five minutes addresses until the regular order.

At 10 30 subscriptions be taken for the Executive Committee, at the close of which the place of next meeting be fixed to-day at 12 o'clock.

At 10 P.M., the Doxology was sung, and the Benediction was pronounced by Rev. J. E. Rankin, D.D., of Washington, D.C., and the Convention adjourned to meet at 9½ o'clock on Saturday morning.

The morning session opened at 9½ o'clock in St. Paul's church with prayer by E. R. Holden, of Providence, R. I. Rev. John C. Brown, of Trenton, N. J., read a portion of Scripture. The minutes were read and approved. Geo. A. Young, of Hamilton, Ontario, Chairman of the Committee on Associations, read the following report on behalf of the Committee.

I.—With reference to the kind proposal of M. D. Leggett, Commissioner of Patents, to present to each Y. M. C. A. within the bounds of the United States, having a library and librarian, a copy of the specifications and drawings of every patent issued during the year, being about one volume each week, your Committee recommend such Associations as have the means at their disposal, to avail themselves of this most generous offer, as the possession of these valuable works would form a strong inducement to mechanics and inventors to frequent the rooms of the Associations. The only conditions attached to the acceptance of the proposal are the following.

1st. The payment of the cost of binding, (estimated from 1st of July at about \$180 per annum).

2nd. That good care be taken of the same.

3rd. That they shall be open for free examination to the public.

II.—The Committee recommend that the fraternal sympathies of this Convention be, and they are hereby returned to the brethren of the Woodsboro Association of Maryland, who have sent a letter of greeting and an expression of their regret at being unable to be represented at Lowell.

III.—The Committee do not deem it at present advisable to recommend the appointment of Chairmen and Secretaries for States and Provinces.

GEORGE A. YOUNG, *Chairman*.

Rev. W. W. Martin, Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, reported as follows on three resolutions which had been referred to them:

Resolution 1.—"Change of the test of active membership."

Your Committee are thoroughly convinced that to change the standard of active membership from that of *Christian Communion* in our Evangelical Churches, so carefully defined in the Resolutions of the 14th Annual Convention at Portland, in 1869, (page 110) would be unwise and impracticable. (See page 98 on Temperance.)

The following is the resolution referred to the Committee:

Resolved, That this Convention will make an additional test of active membership by requiring that all active members shall totally abstain from all intoxicating drinks.

Offered by Rev. Chas. M. Winchester, of Providence, R. I. Association.

Resolution 2.—"On the use of Tobacco."

Your Committee call the attention of the movers of this resolution to the deliverance of the 14th Annual Convention at Portland, 1869, (page 102). That in their judgment a more explicit disposition of this subject can not be made by this Convention.

The following is the resolution referred to the Committee:

Resolved, That we regard the use of Tobacco and other narcotics as inconsistent with the highest style of the Christian life; and as of doubtful toleration, and as a violation of the precepts "Cleanse yourselves of all filthiness," and "keep thyself pure;" and we doubt if much prayer will make such a habit right.

Proposers, A. A. Cook, Ira A. Smith, Milford Y. M. C. A., Mass.

Resolution 3.—"On the Bible in Schools."

Your Committee report that it is inexpedient to adopt this resolution, on the ground that it is not within the sphere of this Convention to make official declarations upon any topic which does not relate directly to the work of Evangelization among young men by agencies appropriate to their own organization. (16th Annual Convention, Washington, D. C.; page 112.)

The following is the resolution referred to the Committee:

Resolved, That this International Y. M. C. A. Convention pledges itself to resist all attempts that have been made or that may be made to exclude the Word of God from the public schools of the nation, and that where it is temporarily excluded, we will make special efforts to put the Bible in Roman Catholic families.

Rev. J. W. Hamilton, Somerville, Mass.:

I desire to ask a question with regard to these resolutions. Is the action of any previous Convention the expressed opinion of this Convention, especially in regard to temperance?

Rev. W. M. Martin:

It has always been so understood. We are on record in regard to this matter; on the subject of temperance the record is peculiarly emphatic.

Dr. D. C. English, of New Brunswick, New Jersey, moved that the report of the Committee be adopted, and the action of previous Conventions be reaffirmed.

Rev. Charles M. Winchester: I object to the report of that Committee.

President: Under the rules it will go upon the docket.

Lucius P. Goddard, Worcester, Mass.: I move that the report be recommitted to the Committee; I consider the report an evasion of an important question.

On motion the report was received and action deferred to afternoon session.

Robert McBurney, in the absence of the Chairman, read the following communication from the Executive Committee:

To the Seventeenth Annual Convention of the Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces:

Beloved Brethren—Since the vote of the Convention last evening, we have considered the matters involved in the refusal of the Convention to accept our declination. We have sought light also through private conference with all the delegates whom any of our number have had time and opportunity to consult. We have invoked the guidance of the Holy Spirit. And now in view of all the considerations which have been presented to our minds, we recede from the determination formed after full conference in our last meeting in New York before coming here, and accept the trust you propose to commit to us in accordance with the resolutions adopted as the report of your Committee. We are, however, of the opinion that if all the considerations which presented themselves to the minds of the Committee when they formed their determination to withdraw from the work, could have been presented to this Convention it would have been concurred in.

We press none of them now. The expressions of your confidence, both formally and privately made, have touched our hearts and moved our judgments, and we yield to your unanimous request, invoking, as we begin our work for another year, the choicest blessings that the Master can give upon every Association, and upon every brother who bears a part in this delightful service, and upon the young men of these lands. Bespeaking your continued sympathy, your charitable speeches and judgments, your fervent prayers and your active and constant coöperation, we are, as ever, in this service,

Affectionately yours,

CEPHAS BRAINERD,
T. G. SELLEW, JR.,
JAMES STOKES, JR.,
R. R. MCBURNEY,
EDGAR A. HUTCHINS.

The decision of the Committee was enthusiastically received.

The Convention sang the hymn beginning

"The Consecrated Cross I'll bear,"

after which Anthony Comstock offered a prayer.

Richard Grugan, of Northampton, Mass., asked leave to introduce a resolution.

Jacob K. Watts, of New Albany, Ind., moved that the rules be suspended to allow the resolution to be offered. Seconded and carried.

Richard Grugan then offered the following:

Resolved, That this International Y. M. C. A. Convention pledges itself to resist to the utmost all attempts that have been made or that may be made, to

exclude the Word of God from the Public Schools of the nation, and that where it is temporarily excluded, we will use special efforts to put the Bible in Roman Catholic families.

Resolution referred to the Committee on Resolutions, with instruction to report at this Session.

Jay W. Cowdery, of Detroit, Mich., returned thanks on behalf of the people of Michigan, who had suffered so severely by fire, to the Y. M. C. A. throughout the United States for the aid rendered to them.

Mr. President and Brothers :—I am not anxious to be heard this morning, but I feel that I would owe you an apology if I did not address you. We come especially commissioned by our Association in Detroit, to convey our thanks to the brothers here, not only on behalf of the Association of Detroit, but on behalf of thousands of homeless women and children, for what you have done for us in so nobly responding to our call for aid during last-year. Now, Mr. President, I wish that you might understand exactly my feelings this morning, in expressing my satisfaction. If you could have stood upon our docks while this fire was raging in the West, and witnessed the steamboat loads of suffering men, women and children; if you could have seen the tears course down their cheeks when they were relieved of those awful necessities, for we could furnish them food and clothing through your aid, you would understand our gratitude this morning. I feel utterly powerless to express our gratitude and the gratitude of those thousands. I am sorry I cannot give you figures. I think we received something over seven or eight thousand dollars in cash, and hundreds of boxes of clothing which were judiciously distributed among those sufferers. Let me tell you that the people of the country suffered. It will be impossible for you in these rocky hills in this barren New England, I speak now of the barrenness of your soil, to understand how a man's farm is burned up. But we have thousands and thousands of men in the West whose farms were literally burned up. Every particle of the surface soil had been licked up by this intense flame. Such men lost too all their implements of husbandry with their farms. They have become objects of charity, and will be for months to come. These men have all to be sustained by their more fortunate brothers. It is through your aid, gentlemen, that we have been able to administer to them the necessities of life. Now, in behalf of those suffering men, women and children, allow me to thank you.

The hymn

"We share our mutual joys,"

was sung, when the Topic, "*The qualifications and duties of a General Secretary, and in what Associations is such an officer necessary?*" was opened in a fifteen minute address by Lang Sheaff, of Cleveland, Ohio.

Mr. Chairman and Brethren of the Convention :—I regret very much that Bro. Taggart who was appointed to open this topic is not present. I have been seized without any special warning, and have had very little time to prepare on the subject.

I went some four years ago from a business clerk in a warehouse into the

rooms of the Cincinnati Association. I felt myself at that time wholly incompetent to fill the post, but I said by the Grace of God I will do the best I can, leaning on God for strength, and asking Him for Divine wisdom in the work. And I hold this, that every man who occupies the position as General Secretary of an Association ought to be thoroughly spiritual and deeply pious. He should be a man of great warmth of heart; a man of clear head; a man with an uncommon amount of common sense, and of great tact. His duty is to forget none of the personal wants and comforts of the young men who call upon him. His rooms ought always to be in perfect order. He ought to have a general oversight of all the meetings held in his rooms. He ought always to be at his post of duty in the room.

I believe that every Association in our land that is able, financially, to support a Secretary or Superintendent, a name now changed to General Secretary, ought to have one. I believe this from the experience I have had at Cincinnati, and in the rooms at Cleveland. I have learned that some of the Associations have gone down on account of the inefficiency of the officers in the rooms. One of the Associations in our land has taken down its flag—St. Louis, the very last city in the nation that ought to have allowed their rooms to be closed. I tell you, so far as the Secretary of the Association is concerned, he ought to be at his desk as much as possible. You do not know brethren how many of these young men there are that have gone out West with just money enough to carry them to the end of their journey, and disappointed in getting immediate employment, are forced to go back to their homes in New England. They come to you there for comfort, for sympathy, for spiritual guidance, and you and I ought to be on hand to meet these boys and enter into sympathy with them.

I believe that no General Secretary has any right to have anything to do with the finances of the Association, save and except on the first day of every month, to collect his own salary. I think this, and I believe Brother Miller will bear me out, that when I was in Cincinnati and the post of collecting the annual dues was laid upon me, that I made myself on this account repulsive to the members.

Robert Weidensall, Omaha:

I would just like to throw out two hints in regard to this question. For a General Secretary, it is necessary that he should understand his calling; he should understand it thoroughly. I consider it should be made a profession in our schools, just as teaching has been made a profession. The Associations must institute schools; must get men as Professors who understand this institution from beginning to end. Then let the General Secretaries in different parts of the country send these young men to their Professor in a city somewhere, so that they may be brought, in theory as well as in practice, to understand what the Young Men's Christian Associations are; and so go forth when there is a vacancy to Indianapolis, Charleston, or wherever needed. There is a reason for this when we have Presidents who are over certain Associations, who don't care a straw how the Associations are run until they go out of their positions. They allow them to break down, and are almost glad to see them break down for their successors. If you have a General Secretary, such as I speak of, it matters not what kind of a man the President may be. When they are all educated by one school and get to understand their work, the ministers and churches will rally around that man, and will do more for him than for an ignorant man. I have seen a number of Associations broken down by ignorant

men. They have tried two or three General Secretaries, experimenting on a man, and become satisfied he is not the one, and so on. I believe there are large towns in this country like Evansville and Terre Haute which should educate these men and send them out as the churches send out their ministers, and they would receive from the largest churches in these cities sympathy and assistance, and men would take them by the hand and give them a hearty welcome and sustenance there. To send young men to college it takes eight years to educate them. You could educate a man for the position in three or four years, who could be fully prepared for its duties.

Another idea; it is that there is a misunderstanding all through this country on the subject of the Associations. The Associations in New York have one way, in Philadelphia another way, in Cincinnati another, and so on, according to the local training and opinions. The training of young men from this institution would be uniform.

The time for taking up subscriptions for the general work of the Association having arrived, E. W. Chase, of St. Paul, moved to suspend the rules to allow the Committee on Business to be instructed to appoint a time to finish the discussion of the topic. Seconded by Edgar A. Hutchins. R. R. McBurney moved to amend by adding "Lectures and Lecturers." Carried as amended.

Subscriptions were then received from Associations:

	<i>For Expenses.</i>	<i>Proceedings.</i>	<i>Monthly.</i>
New York.....	\$1,000	500 copies.	50 copies.
Cincinnati.....	250	100	25
Providence, R. I.....	Same as last year.		
Washington, D. C.....	100	25	25
Cleveland, Ohio.....	100	50	20
Philadelphia.....	300	100	
Brooklyn.....	200		25
Hanover, Ind.....	20	5	1
Indianapolis.....	50		
New Albany.....	Will report to Ex. Com.		
Howard University.....		25	3
Portland, Me.....	20	25	5
Minneapolis, Minn.....	15	10	5
Elizabeth, N. J.....	25	15	25
Montclair.....	Same as last year.		
Newark.....	25	20	
New Brunswick, (F. R. Stout)....		10	
Orange, N. J.....	20	10	
Newton, (F. C. Titus).....	20	5	
Beverly, Mass.....	10		1
Boston.....	200	25	25
Belchertown.....	Will report to Ex. Com.		
Charlestown, (W. L. Knox).....	15	5	
Fitchburg, (N. H. Whitney).....	5	5	
Holden, (J. T. Abbott).....	5	2	
Lowell.....	Will report to Ex. Com.		
Lynn, (A. Wilcomb).....	Same as last year.		
Northampton, (R. Gruen).....	50	25	
Oakham.....	5	2	
Rockport, (N. Pool).....	10	3	
Salem, (Chas. McIntire, W. W. Hill)	25	5	
Somerville, (Rev. J. W. Hamilton).	Same as last year.		

South Boston.....	Same as last year.		
Springfield.....	20	10	
Spencer, (E. Stone).....	10	5	
Worcester, (L. P. Goddard).....	25	5	
Wheeling, W. Va., (W. H. Irwin).....	10	3	10
Parksburg.....	10	5	
Milford, Conn., (Geo. G. Baldwin).....	10	2	
Plantsville, (Lucius Upson).....		5	5
Detroit, Mich.....	25	10	10
Hamilton, Can.....		5	
Port Hope.....	5	4	5
Toronto City, (W. Anderson).....	10	5	
Ashland, Ohio, (John J. Ashenhurst).....	10	5	
Dayton.....	25	2	
Portsmouth, (Rev. Dr. Pratt).....	25	10	5
Chagrin Falls, (Albert Shute).....	10	3	
Toledo.....	25	10	10
Easton, Pa., (John Fox).....		5	5
Johnstown, (Rev. — Fink).....	Same as last year.		
Lancaster.....	10	5	10
Union City.....	5	3	
York.....	15	5	5
Bristol, R. I.....	30	10	25
Selma, Ala.....	40	10	
Prince Edward's Island.....	20	5	10
Burlington, Vt.....	20	10	
Montpelier.....	10	2	
Rutland, (Rev. N. Cyr).....	20	10	10
St. Johnsbury, N. B.....	20	5	15
Nova Scotia.....			
Amherst.....	5	2	1
Halifax, (A. W. Eaton).....	50		
Pictou.....	10	8	
Truro.....	Will report to Ex. Com.		
Yarmouth, (Freeman Dennis).....	10	5	
Auburn, N. Y.....	Will report to Ex. Com.		
Courtland.....	5	5	
Fulton, (H. B. Chamberlan).....	20	10	10
Goshen, a member.....	5		
do. Association.....	10	5	
Poughkeepsie, (E. Uhl).....	20	6	
Saratoga Springs, (A. B. Chaffee).....	15	2	
Concord, N.H., (A. Folger) new....	10		
do. old.....	30	2	
Manchester.....	10	5	5
Seabrook, (Rev. W. Rand).....	2	2	3
Yonkers, N. Y.....		5	
Pittsburg, Pa., (R. A. Orr).....	150	5	Same as last year.
Germantown, Pa.....	10	5	
Auburn, Me.....	5	5	Same as last year.
Union City, Pa., (L. B. Still).....	5	3	
Chagrin Falls, Ohio, (Albert Shute)			
pd. \$2.50.....	2	1	
Chagrin Falls, O., (Alfred Adams,) \$9	8	1	
Belchertown, Mass.....	5	2	2
Peru, Vt., (Nathan Lillay) pd. 50..		1	

The Convention sang

"We'll help the cause along."

Invitations were received from the following Associations to hold the next Convention at their respective towns, and were voted on as follows:

	<i>1st. Vote.</i>	<i>2d Vote.</i>
San Francisco, Cal.	93	103
Poughkeepsie, N. Y.	87	
Providence, R. I.	2	102
Germantown, Pa.	2	

Rev. J. W. Hamilton, of Somerville, Mass., spoke in favor of going to San Francisco, and moved that the vote in favor of it be made unanimous. Carried.

Dr. English moved that if the Executive Committee could not get the Railroads to reduce the fare to San Francisco, they be authorized to call the next Convention at Poughkeepsie. Carried.

The Business Committee recommend that the Afternoon Session be occupied as follows:

3 o'clock.

1st. To hear final Reports of Standing Committees.

2d. To pass Resolutions of Thanks.

3d. At 3.30.—Continue the discussion commenced this morning on "The qualifications and duties of a General Secretary, and in what Association is such an officer necessary?"

4th. At 4.30.—Take up for discussion the subject of "Lectures and Lecturers" to the close. Adjourn at 5 o'clock.

(Signed,) J. H. CHEEVER,

Chairman.

Rev. W. H. Martin, Chairman of Committee on Resolutions, reported that the adoption of the Resolution on the Bible in the Public Schools, was inexpedient.

The report of the Committee was sustained.

After singing and the pronouncing of the benediction by the Rev. W. M. Martin, the Convention adjourned.

AFTERNOON.—ST. PAUL'S CHURCH.

June 15.

The Afternoon Session was opened by H. M. Browne, of Howard University, with prayer.

F. H. Smith, Chairman of Committee on Executive Committee's Report, read the following Rule, which was adopted:

RULE.—The Executive Committee shall, before the meeting of each Convention, appoint a Committee on Credentials, to consist of seven members, who shall receive the credentials of delegates as they reach the place of meeting, and report the same to the Convention during its session.

Mr. Beard, Lowell, Chairman of Committee on Credentials, reported the number of delegates in attendance upon the Convention to be 390, as follows :

LIST OF DELEGATES.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

New York City.

BRAINERD, CEPHAS.
HUTCHINS, E. A.

McBURNAY, R. R.
SELLEW, T. G., Jr.

STOKES, JAMES, Jr.
WETMORE, B. C.

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

H. L. McKEE, Selma, Alabama.
H. H. BURGESS, Portland, Maine.
Rev. GEO. A. HALL, Washington, D. C.
E. UHL, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
Rev. W. A. RAND, Seabrook, N. H.

E. R. HOLDEN, Providence, R. I.
CHARLES B. MORRIS, Montclair, N. J.
H. P. LLOYD, Cincinnati, Ohio.
L. P. ROWLAND, Jr., Boston, Mass.

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

Rev. J. M. LANG, Edinburgh, Scotland.
Rev. Dr. MILLIGAN, Aberdeen, Scotland.
CECIL DOUGLASS, Beach Street Church, Boston, Mass.
Rev. S. W. SEGUR, Gloucester, Mass.
T. C. JEROME, Clinton N. Y.
B. W. CHASE, Laconia, N. H.
J. R. DOUGALL, Montreal, Canada.
W. K. HOLMES, Mystic Conn.
OSCAR J. HULL, New Haven, Conn.
H. A. SUMNER, Chicago, Ill.
JOHN LOVETT, Beverly, Mass.
J. A. DAWSON, Boston, Mass.
G. L. FALL, Charlestown, Mass.
Rev. D. A. MOREHOUSE, Essex, Mass.
JAMES A. CROSBY, Greenfield, Mass.
Rev. E. A. WHITTIER, Lawrence, Mass.
Hon. T. P. RICHARDSON, Lynn, Mass.
M. F. DELANO, Lynn, Mass.
A. WHITCOMB, Lynn, Mass.

Rev. G. L. GLEASON, Manchester Mass.
H. F. PARKER, Reading, Mass.
Rev. O. L. LEONARD, Rockport, Mass.
H. L. MAKECHNIE, Somerville, Mass.
J. E. SEAVERY, Taunton, Mass.
C. N. RICHARDS, Washington, D. C.
C. B. SOUTHWORTH, Manchester, N. H.
Rev. F. G. CLARK, Manchester, N. H.
W. O. ABBOTT, Manchester, N. H.
W. HERRIES, N. Y.
G. F. KILBY, N. Y.
H. W. ADAMS, N. Y.
J. L. WELLS, N. Y.
Rev. S. L. GEROULD, Goffstown, N. H.
J. D. JONES, Cleveland Ohio.
S. P. FENN, Cleveland, Ohio.
C. P. SMITH, Burlington, Vermont.
C. W. H. DUNCAN, Burlington, Vermont.
H. F. OSBORNE, Newark, N. J.

ALABAMA.

Selma.
JAMES H. FRANKLIN.

CONNECTICUT.

Bridgeport.
DABNEY CARR.
Colchester.
E. L. STRONG,
C. A. WORTHINGTON.

Meriden.
W. R. DEAN,
W. E. BENHAM.

Milford.
Rev. G. H. GRIFFIN,
G. G. BALDWIN.

Mystic Bridge.
S. P. HOLMES,
J. A. FITCH.

New Haven.
H. P. HOADLEY,
CHAS. E. UPSON,
OSCAR J. HULL.

New London.
J. N. HARRIS,
GEORGE STRONG.

Plantville.
LUCIUS UPSON,
E. W. TWITCHELL.

Waterbury.
G. W. BEACH,
Rev. J. ANDERSON.

INDIANA.

Hanover.
B. D. WISHARD.

Indianapolis.
R. SEDGWICK,
JESSE JONES,
E. C. MAYHEW.

New Albany.
J. K. WALTERS.

ILLINOIS.

Aurora.
SANFORD HARDY.
Patavia.
THOS. L. CLEVELAND.

MAINE.

Auburn.
Rev. E. N. FERNALD.

Bath.
J. M. MOODY,
G. H. PALMER.

Biddeford.
H. BURNHAM,
C. D. JORDAN.

Elliot.
Rev. B. T. SANBORN.

Fryeburg.
A. F. LEWIS.

Hallowell.
H. S. OWEN.

Lewiston.
P. N. DEXTER,
J. G. RICHARDSON.

Portland.
F. A. SMITH,
W. H. HOBBS,
S. FRANK,
F. W. MCKENNY.

Wentthrop.
L. JONES,
C. M. BAILEY.

MICHIGAN.

Detroit.
W. J. CRAIG.
J. W. CONDRY.
Grand Rapids.
J. HORNER.

MINNESOTA.

Minneapolis.
S. P. DORLAND,
C. G. MOOERS.
St. Paul.
E. W. CHASE,
H. M. KNOX.

MARYLAND.

Baltimore.
S. J. LINCOLN.

DIST. of COLUMBIA.

Howard University.
H. M. BROWNE,
W. C. ROANE.

Washington.
JAMES MELDRUM,
A. BIELASKI,
F. W. VAUGHN,
S. S. BRYANT,
W. M. TENNEY,
J. R. IMBRIE,
C. H. SMITH,
F. N. RICHARDS,
Rev. J. E. RANKIN.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Salisbury and Amesbury.
A. H. FIELDEN.

Attleboro.
JOB B. SAVERY,
Rev. W. H. STARR.

Barnard-tram.
Rev. J. H. PARMELEE,
E. C. BAGG.

Beverly.
C. WALLACE,
J. G. TRASK.

Boston.
REUBEN CROOKE,
M. H. SARGENT,
R. STURGIS, Jr.,
Rev. J. P. HUBBARD,
E. SHUTE,
H. E. SIMMONS,
S. S. MATTHEWS.

Belchertown.
A. CURTIS,
A. E. FERRY.

Cambridgeport.
Rev. G. R. LEAVITT.

Charlestown.
CHAS. FULTZ,
WARREN L. KNOX,
G. L. FALL.

Clinton.
Hon. H. C. GREELEY,
Rev. D. S. CLARK.

Fall River.
R. E. REMINGTON,
S. P. ASHLEY.

Fitchburg.
M. H. WHITNEY.

Grafton.
J. A. DODGE,
A. C. GURNEY.

Haverhill.
J. H. NICHOLS,
S. L. B. SPEARE,
J. C. EMORY.

Holden.
JOHN HOLDEN,
J. T. ABBOTT.

Hopkinton.
E. THOMPSON.

Leicester.
C. A. DENNY,
Rev. A. H. COOLIDGE.

Lowell.
G. F. WITHEY,
A. W. WEEKS,
D. L. DEMOCK.

Lynn.
H. W. FRENCH,
Rev. T. E. VASSA,
JAMES PATCH.

Marblehead.
G. J. PIERCE,
J. E. HILLIER.

Malden.
E. REA.

Milford.
Rev. Dr. A. A. COOK,
J. A. SMITH.

Natick.
J. R. ADAMS,
J. M. FORBISH.

New Bedford.
T. R. DENISON.

North Brookfield.
E. D. BACHELOR.

Northampton.
Rev. R. OROGAN,
O. E. LYMAN.

Northboro.
Hon. MILO HILDRETH.

Oakham.
J. G. WARREN.
A. W. LINCOLN.

Orange.
RODNEY HART.

Reading.
A. E. WINSHIP,
S. E. PARKER.

Rockport.
N. POOLE,
N. RICHARDSON, Jr.

Ru'land.
W. A. WHEELER,
W. A. DAVIS.

Salem.
C. MCINTYRE.

Somerville.
Rev. J. W. HAMILTON,
W. L. HATHAWAY,

South Boston.
HENRY MCCOY,
C. J. LITTLEFIELD.

Springfield.
G. C. ANDREWS,
J. H. FOULDS.

Spencer.
EMERSON STONE,
W. UPHAM.

Stonham.
D. A. ABBOTT.

Townsend Centre.
Rev. G. H. MORSS.

Wakefield.
H. A. STAPLES,
N. A. HUNTER.

West Amesbury.
N. D. TILTON,
JAMES D. PIKE.

Westminster.
Rev. W. H. HUNTER,

Westboro.
SAMUEL CHAMBERLIN.

Worcester.
LUCIUS P. GODDARD,
H. M. WHEELER,
C. D. TUCKER,
G. E. H. ROUNDY,
E. JEROME.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Candia.
J. LANE, Jr.,
C. B. ROWE.

Concord.
ALLEN FOLGER,
E. W. ABBOTT.

Francesstown.
DANIEL F. PATCH,
N. R. MARDEN.

Goshen.
JOHN BRAGDON.

Hampton.
J. PEEKINS.

Laconia.
L. R. WEEKS,
F. W. REEVES.

Manchester.
GEO. MURDOUGH,
F. E. FOSS.

Nashua.
E. O. BLUNT,
A. W. LAWYER,
S. B. COLLINS.

New Boston.
J. S. EDWARDS,
W. H. TAYLOR.

Portsmouth.
R. KIMBALL,
C. SHANNON.

NEW JERSEY.

Dover.
WARREN SEGUR,
A. C. SMITH.

Elizabeth.
JOHN M. MEEKER, Jr.,
J. PINGRY.

Hadding M. E. Church, J. C.
JAMES FOSTER.

Jersey City.
W. S. CONANT,
W. L. DOWNS.

New Brunswick.
C. B. STOUT,
F. R. STOUT,
D. C. ENGLISH.

Newark.
W. F. PETTIT,
Dr. I. M. WARD.
THEO. F. JOHNSON,
L. B. KELLER.
Hon. C. C. LATHROP.

Orange.
G. E. ADAMS,
M. SHEPARD,
W. F. CANDLER,
Plainfield.
C. W. McCUTCHEON.

Trenton.
J. C. TITUS.
Rev. J. C. BROWN,
H. W. CLOSSON.

NEBRASKA.

Omaha.
R. WEIDENSALL.

NEW YORK.

Auburn.
S. B. ALMY,
G. W. LEONARD.

Brooklyn.
A. COMSTOCK,
Rev. W. M. MARTIN,
W. G. MELDRUM.

Buffalo.
G. L. LOVEJOY,
I. G. JENKINS,
G. M. POWELL.

Cortland.
FRANK PLACE.

Cornell University.
D. E. KOHLER.

Fulton.
H. B. CHAMBERLAIN.

Goshen.
N. J. KELSEY.

New York City.
H. C. HOUGHTON,
F. C. JENNINGS,
J. D. SHIPMAN,
H. R. WHITE,
D. E. HARVEY,
EDWARD ST. JOHN,
JAMES E. PETERS.

New York (Harlem Branch).
CHAS. T. KISSAM,
S. H. BURR.

Ogdensburg.
J. S. RAYMOND,
L. K. SOPER.

Poughkeepsie.
STANLEY BARTLETT.
WM. W. SMITH.

Saratoga Springs.
A. B. CHAFFEE.

Schoenclady.
J. J. MARLETT.

OHIO.

Ashland.
J. J. ASHENHURST.

Cleveland.
H. A. SHERWIN,
H. H. HAMLIN,
Rev. J. E. TWITCHELL,
L. SHEAFF,
G. W. COBB,

C. A. SMITH.
JOHN STEELE,
W. H. DOANE,
JOHN A. FOOTE.

Cincinnati.
H. THANE MILLER,
J. H. CHEEVER,
A. C. SCOTT,
W. H. DOANE,
H. A. MONTFORT,
J. B. WELLS,
Rev. J. CHESLER.

Dayton.
H. P. ADAMS,
J. E. DEAL,
H. E. PARROTT.

Portsmouth.
Rev. Dr. PRATT.

Chagrin Falls.
ALFRED ADAMS,
ALBERT F. SHUTE.

Toledo.
T. A. NELSON,
Rev. H. M. BACON.

Zanesville.
H. G. O. CARY.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Burgessstown.
D. M. PKY.

Carlisle.
W. D. SPONSER,
A. BLAIR.

Easton.
JOHN FOX.

Germantown.
G. D. STROUD.

Great Bend.
CHARLES E. BALDWIN.

Johnstown.
Rev. R. A. FINK,
Rev. W. A. FLEMING.

Lafayette College (Easton).
D. H. CAMPBELL.

Lancaster.
Dr. S. KENEAGY,
Rev. B. C. SUESSEROTT.

Philadelphia.
L. D. VAIL,
T. MARSHALL,
P. B. SIMONS,
D. M. WARNER,
Rev. T. A. FERNLEY,
Rev. J. J. JOYCE, Jr.

Pittsburgh.
Rev. S. A. TAGGART,
J. MORROW,
C. L. CLARK,
R. A. ORE.

Scranton.
Col. F. L. HITCHCOCK.

Tidioute.
J. ANDREWS.

Union City.
Rev. Dr. READ,
L. B. HILL.

York.
J. BASTRASS,
E. A. KING,
G. F. LEBER,
P. C. WIEST.

RHODE ISLAND.

Bristol.
P. SKINNER, Jr.,
L. A. BISHOP,
O. C. BARROWS,
CHAS. SALSTEEN.

Providence.
T. W. CHASE,
W. H. ANDERSON,
A. C. BARSTOW, Jr.,
Rev. C. M. WINCHESTER,
Rev. J. W. WILLETT,
E. M. HUNT,
Rev. W. F. BAINBRIDGE,
SAMUEL BOYD, Jr.,

Westerly.
T. C. CROCKER,
J. STILMAN,
Rev. A. H. WILCOX.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Columbia.
C. E. CHICHESTER.

VERMONT.

Burlington.
F. W. SMITH,
Rev. G. B. SAFFORD,

Charlotte.
S. S. PAGE,
H. J. CARPENTER.

Montpelier.
A. J. HOWE,
O. DALEY.

Norwich.
Rev. W. SEWELL,
H. B. OLDS.

Peru.
Rev. N. LILLIE,
U. C. SIMONDS.

Rutland.
Rev. N. CYR.

Shoreham.
Rev. W. N. BACON.

St. Johnsbury.
F. B. DENIO,
FRANCIS SWITZER.

Waterbury Center.
Rev. T. A. STEVENS.

Winooski.
Rev. A. J. INGALLS.

VIRGINIA.

Emory.
W. R. LAMBUTH,
J. P. BROWN.

Alexandria.
J. W. GREEN.

WEST VIRGINIA.

Clarksburg.
M. M. KERR.

Wheeling.
W. H. IRWIN.

BRIT. PROVINCES —ONTARIO.

Bowmansville.
H. O'HARA.

Hamilton.
G. A. YOUNG.

Port Hope.
JOHN CRAIG,
W. A. COPELAND.

Toronto.
F. H. WALLACE,
W. P. CROMBIE,
H. C. DIXON,
W. ANDERSON.

St. Catharines.
W. J. McALLA.

QUEBEC.
Montreal.
ALFRED SANDHAM,
JAMES BAYLIS,
J. HOUGHAN,
E. G. BROWN,
W. WRIGHT.

Sherbrooke.
E. H. DUFF.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

St. John.
E. T. KNOWLES,
H. B. WHITE,
H. P. KERR,
W. J. THOMPSON.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Amherst.
W. M. SLEEP.

Halifax.
J. S. McLEAN,
C. H. LONGARD,
A. W. EATON,
W. B. McNUTT,
E. JOST.

Kentville.
G. A. CALKINS.
Pictou.
Dr. G. A. CHRISTIE.

Truro.
J. K. BLAIR.

Windsor.
M. H. GOUDGE.
Yarmouth.
F. DENNIS,
J. BURRILL.

PRINCE EDWARD'S ISLAND.

Charlottetown.
F. W. HALES.

Total Executive Committee.....	6
“ Corresponding Members of Committee.....	10
“ Corresponding Members.....	41
“ Accredited Delegates.....	333
Total.....	390

On motion, the report was adopted, and the Committee discharged.

The Report of the Committee on Resolutions on the resolution on Tobacco and Temperance, on which action had been deferred till this afternoon, was taken up on motion of Rev. Mr. Winchester as Unfinished Business.

C. D. Tucker of Worcester, Mass. :

This question we met at Portland. Now there are differences on this question among those who love the Saviour. It seems to me it cannot be wrong to take strong grounds and make our thoughts and actions in regard to this question of Tobacco tally with Intemperance. I know a great many differ from me on this ground. Now I know a great many good men in this Convention ; older men than I am ; further up in the record of these Conventions. I know they differ with me with regard to these things, but I think it is doubtful if Christian men have a right to use Tobacco. I tell you, dear friends, Tobacco is a dreadful evil to the young men of the country. I know this is not popular now, but I tell you, dear friends, it is popular with the Saviour, and it cannot be wrong to throw it out. I ask you to consider this resolution before you pass it. Ask your Heavenly Father to give it a place with intemperance, and put it in that category.

Dr. English, New Brunswick, N. J. :

I never smoked in my life ; I never drank a tea-spoonful of liquor ; but I do think it is unnecessary to take up the time of the Convention every year with resolutions on intemperance and tobacco. This Convention, at the fourteenth meeting, passed resolutions on these two subjects, and it does seem to me that those resolutions meet the whole case. I renew my motion, that the report of the Committee be adopted, and that the action of previous Conventions be affirmed.

Rev. C. M. Winchester, Providence, R. I. :

I do not like this idea of going back to Portland on a subject upon which the whole Christian world is in advance of us. This subject is of more vital importance in our work than any other subject that can be brought before us. I say that we do not take high standards enough. I say that we must have a plank in our platform that requires members of our Association to be totally abstinent, no matter whether the Church of God does or does not. [Applause.] We require that a working member of this Association shall be orthodox in belief. I tell you being orthodox in belief will never save men from hell. That orthodoxy with them that breathe and smell of whiskey will never save a man from going to perdition. And it is a well known fact that there are members that for years in these Associations have used this accursed stuff. They may use it moderately and not to excess, but they stand as stumbling blocks. How can any man go forth to this work with the breath issuing from his nostrils tainted with this smell, to tell young men to come out of grog-shops and come to Jesus? I tell you, brethren, let us take higher ground on this subject than the Church government, as strict as it is on this subject. No matter what the Churches say about it. Let these young men go back to wake up the Churches, and make them what they ought to be. I would to God that any of you that have radical views would come to my church and wake up these men on the subject. The time must come when this question which has been brought into this Convention must be discussed. I hope it will be thoroughly so. My dear friends, I only regret that we have only a few minutes to talk about it now.

Rev. J. W. Willett, of Providence, R. I., moved the following amendment :

Resolved, That the resolution on temperance, printed on the 98th page of the Proceedings of the Portland Convention, be amended by substituting "total abstinence" for "temperance," wherever the latter word occurs.

This amendment was accepted by Dr. English, the mover of the resolution.

Edgar R. Hutchins, New York :

I do not rise, sir, to debate the question. I am in favor of the amendment, but I am not in favor of doing anything that will make the Associations organizations for temperance purposes. I prefer to do that when he says work under regular temperance societies. I think the brother is mistaken that there are prominent workers in our Association who are well known to be addicted to moderate drinking. I do not believe that the members of our Association can in any way act contrary to the principles of the religion of our Churches. I would leave this test of membership to the Churches.

The question was briefly discussed by W. C. Rowan, of Howard University; Rev. W. A. Rand, of South Seabrook, N. H.; and Dabney Carr, of Bridgeport, Conn.

Time was extended, on motion of F. H. Smith, to allow a vote on the resolution of Dr. English.

The resolution as amended was passed by a large majority.

E. W. Chase, of St. Paul, Minn., spoke as follows on the qualifications of Secretaries :

In regard to our influence over young men when they are away from home ; I come here from St. Paul, a city where probably more young men in search of health, pleasure and business come than any other city, certainly of its size. But few of these young men come directly to our rooms, but when they have lost their health or money they are brought there for relief. Now, I wish some measure might be provided by which young men can be brought directly there, if we can have them at all. For they go to the hotels first, and although they are members of your churches and Sabbath schools, nine times out of ten they will never go into our churches. If they were brought to our Association we could introduce them to Christian people and take them to the Church on the Sabbath. We have members there from each of our churches to take strangers to their churches and introduce them to the superintendent of the Sabbath school and prominent church members, who will invite them to their homes and throw about them their religious influences. We save them in nine cases out of ten, if the Devil does not get them into the hotels. I ask simply that every young man that leaves his home here at the East, wherever our Association may have an influence, may be furnished with a letter of introduction or some letter that will bring him to our rooms. Their parents are careful to furnish them with letters to bankers and others, so as to get into business, but are not careful to furnish them with letters that will throw them under religious influences. You make a mistake in allowing your children to come simply for business, regardless of their spiritual welfare. I would suggest that the Associations here represented should all be required or requested to give such a notice as would induce young men visiting the West to take a letter of introduction which would bring them to our rooms, so that we can take care of them.

J. A. Nelson, Toledo, Ohio :

It is expected that the General Secretaries shall make themselves acquainted with the young men of the city as far as possible. It is impossible for a single man to come into contact personally with them. We have four thousand young men. I cannot get into contact with all these young men directly. I can hunt them up through the city when expedient and when required to. In order to find out about young men and ascertain their spiritual status, we have a committee of about twenty or thirty ladies. Our city is divided into districts, and we have books with headings giving all the statistics we desire to possess ourselves of. These ladies pass around these districts and make inquiries about the young men that are there—whether they go to church ; are members of churches ; how long they have been in the city ; what denomination they belong to ; what preferences they have ; and thus gain all we desire to know. We look over the lists and find out where a young man is, if he has been a church member somewhere. We write that young man's name on a card and send it to the pastor of one of the churches with which he was formerly connected, and that pastor will go and look after that young man, and if possible, draw him into the church. Now, as regards these young men that leave our cities. When they go to another city, write to one of the pastors and say such a young man will be in your city at such a time, probably engaged in such a place of business, and he will hunt him up and get him into a church. Thus you will accomplish a great work. A young man once employed in one of our railroad depots was leaving our city. I learned of it before he left. I un-

derstood the young man had been brought under the influences of grace by the Association. I wrote to Brother Sheaf, asking him to write to him, telling him his story, and how he had been brought to Christ, recommending the Saviour to him. I expect that man has performed his duty. I wrote to one of the pastors at the same time about him. I expect that these men have reached that young man and have spoken words to him which possibly have been instrumental in his conversion. Brother Sheaf touched one point, *i. e.*, this matter of finance. We found that part of the General Secretaries were engaged in raising funds for their own support. They have tried that "financial plan" in Louisville, and when on a visit there, I found they had a library of several thousand volumes.

Thomas Marshall, of Philadelphia :

I have been requested by several members of this Convention to explain fully one branch of the work of our General Secretary, on raising funds to sustain the Association ; for it must be conceded that money is essential to the successful prosecution of all progressive and enterprising organizations. Without a motive-power the machinery must stop.

The finances were appropriately called by Brother William M. Martin, at the Secretary's meeting yesterday, "the sinews of war."

Four years ago the Young Men's Christian Association of Philadelphia was several thousand dollars in debt. They owned no property, and had they continued in that condition they would soon have been like one or two prominent Associations, compelled to go into liquidation. At present the Association is worth one hundred thousand dollars clear of the world. At the time referred to the duty of soliciting funds to carry on the work (not collecting dues) was assigned to the General Secretary. He started with a plan to raise ten thousand dollars a year for five years, but we discovered a greater liberality on the part of our business men than we anticipated. The first amount was secured in less than three months. We found in our city,—and no doubt it is so in other large cities,—that many of the prosperous Christian men would aid in our work, if approached by one who is familiar with it in all its details ; and no one is better able to explain this than the Secretary. Many who were approached and aided us, never before knew the object and working of our organization, while others knowing the appeal to be in progress voluntarily offered donations. Others in sympathy with Christian work, and always ready to distribute from the abundance which God has entrusted to them as stewards, expressed pleasure in having an opportunity to contribute. The only cases where our appeal was received unkindly, were from one or two who ignorantly supposed the Association to be active in the political movements of the day.

We found many prepared to give a proportion of their yearly income to religious and benevolent objects, but these must be conscientiously and clearly convinced that it is a good investment, and they will then contribute every year. We aimed high, in all cases asking from those who were able to give it one hundred dollars. We went forth in faith with God's promise to his people, "I will go before thee and make the crooked places straight ; I will break in pieces the gates of brass and cut in sunder bars of iron : and I will give thee the treasures of darkness and hidden riches of secret places, that thou mayest know that I am the God of Israel."

But in soliciting money, as in any other work, it is true that "Faith without works is dead." Mr. Moody, when asked at the Portland Convention how car-

tain work was successfully accomplished, replied to three inquiries in the same words, "Work, work, work." The great secret of success is in not being easily discouraged. Dark hours and days are sure to come; but where we fail in one day we can accomplish in the next. Owing to circumstances, business men are to be found during business hours in different moods. Sometimes, when irritable and careworn, will decline a hearing, while at other times they may thank you for coming. It will not do to drop the appeal because a large proportion refuse. A subscription of a small amount daily will amount to a considerable in the year. This work of the General Secretary occupies only the business hours, say from ten until two o'clock, leaving most of the day for other work.

To aid in accomplishing this successfully,

1st. Learn from members of the Association or the Board, the names of their liberal church members and business friends.

2d. Keep the appeal constantly before these by circulars, letters, or by requesting the influence and co-operation of members as far as they are willing to aid in the appeal.

3d. Take but a limited number of names each day, and carefully note promises to consider the matter, and requests to call again at future periods.

4th. Make your subscriptions contingent upon the whole amount required being obtained, thus avoiding the necessity of calling again for the same appeal.

5th. Be sure your work in all its details is carefully planned to promote the welfare of young men and carry on successfully the objects of the Association.

To accomplish this, an employee of the Association who can give all his time and attention to this work, is the proper person to undertake it successfully. Finance Committees generally composed of the best men are constantly occupied by their own business, and cannot give time to raise all the funds required in large Associations.

Circulars alone, without personal appeals, will accomplish nothing.

Trust in God and work earnestly for results, and as co-workers with Him, we can look for large success.

The Convention sang,

"Work, for the Night is Coming."

Rev. George H. Hall, Washington, D. C. :

I contend we do not want Secretaries to be collectors, financial agents, etc. We want men to do that work, but I contend that is not the work of the General Secretary. You want a man consecrated to the Lord Jesus Christ, whose heart is full of the love of souls, that by his love for Christ, he will constrain young men to act in raising money to carry on the work of the Association. I believe young men have more interest in the work of the Association when they have the power of raising the money, and we have nothing to do with it. We have a Board of Managers, each one takes a part of this money to be raised, and I am free as their Secretary, to work for the souls of young men, and to plan enterprises, or to devise ways and means to reach young men throughout the city.

R. R. McBurney, New York :

I am sorry this discussion has taken a one-sided turn—the financial turn. This office of General Secretary has a great many sides to it. I don't reflect on the brethren for giving their Secretary care of the finances, nor on the Associa-

tions which have their methods different from New York, where the Board of Directors raise the money themselves. I want to say a few words on the question under consideration. "The qualifications and duties of a General Secretary."

Every Association who think they can employ a man to attend to their work, will, if they attempt it, soon find that he has more than paid for himself, and that the Association has been vastly benefitted by it. I think the General Secretary should be a married man. I have had eleven years experience as a Secretary, and I speak as a Secretary. I think he should know all about Association work, and how it is done. It is a very easy thing to know everything about Association work, and methods in operation in other places, and so become master of the situation. Why if you have a bungling General Secretary who does not know how work is done all over the country and the world, your work will not be well done. True, he can find it out how it is done in a very little time, and become an efficient Secretary if he will. He should be a student of young men; their habits of life; their temptations; their modes of thought. Now this is necessary for a Secretary who makes up his mind that he will be master of his position, and if he will know everything he possibly can about the difficulties of men for whom he is laboring. But the fact is, the reason why I think more efficient effort is not put forth by the Associations, is the fact that the young men of those Associations don't begin to appreciate the difficulties that beset young men, the temptations to which they are exposed, and are not in sympathy with them. I think he should be able to set young men to work. I think that is one of the most important qualifications a Secretary should have. He needs certain natural qualifications; he should be very sympathetic and magnetic; he should be so when he comes in contact with young men, and one by one, if possible, he wins them to him. The Associations have need to look out for that class of men—men of intelligence and sympathy. Men who can sit down by the side of a young man who is telling him his sorrows and troubles, and mix his tears with the young man as he tells the story. The fact is, by the influence of such persons you get hold of them and lead them where you choose.

E. F. C. Knowles, St. Johns, N. B. :

All I wish to do is to remind you that different circumstances require different qualifications. A General Secretary that might suit for one place, would in an Association in another city, probably be considered not a proper person for the office. If an Association is spiritually dead, then they need a General Secretary full of spiritual life.

Rev. N. Cyr, Rutland, Vt., then made some remarks.

Rev. Mr. Fink, Johnstown, Pa. :

I say that Secretaries should not be employed in any Association. The reason I give is, that by such employment of a Secretary you will fall into the same difficulty which I believe exists in the Church. What is that? Why, the people that sit in the pews have come to the conclusion that nobody in the church is to work but the preacher in the pulpit. And if he is to be assisted at all, it is by a few elders and deacons, elected simply because they are good looking men, and nobody will object to their going around with the box to take up a collection. The great trouble with the Christian Church, and

which I believe was the cause of the origination of Y. M. C. A.'s, was the fact that the Church had gotten into a position that nobody was expected to work, except, as I said before, the preacher. He was expected to do everything. That is the danger I apprehend where Secretaries are employed. What we want in the Associations is young Christian workers, and every man a worker. When you employ a Secretary the danger is that nine-tenths of the members will say the Secretary must do this work, which is their work to do. He must see to these men, he must go out to the highways and hedges after them. Some have the idea that these Western and Philadelphia brethren have, that the work of the Secretary is to collect money. Now the danger of this I apprehend is just that.

Mr. Cobb, Cleveland, Ohio :

Put the right man in the right place. I thank God to-day for the action of our Executive Board in putting Bro. Sheaf in the Cleveland Association. He has sent out, and is sending out a hundred delegations into the neighboring cities and towns around Cleveland. We don't know where we go, and so he lays out the work for us. We go out in the morning and sow our seed, and in the evening withhold not our hand, and God's blessing is raising up fruits that fill our hearts with love to Him.

Hon. John Hill, New Jersey :

I have been associated during the past winter with one of the Associations represented here, and have seen something of its work through their Secretary. I was present the other evening when he asked for workers to go out on the street to hold evening meetings. Some twenty or thirty remained after that meeting. I saw him take down their names to take part in the meetings, which came on in that week and a week or two afterwards, to pray and talk at these street meetings. I saw at once it would be just as impossible to carry on the organization without that live Secretary, as it would to have a train of cars to go along the road without a locomotive. I could see further, that he had enough to do to keep this thing running without attending to the financial matters connected with the Association. Now this will not answer in country districts. For instance, where I live we can get along without a Secretary of that character. The only advantage of such a man is, you need him where you are carrying on a large work. You have got to have a head to it. What is the result of all these movements? I have witnessed it there this winter. A large number of conversions. Souls have been brought to Christ. This is the result of having the right man in the right place.

The time allotted to this subject having expired, the discussion of the topic, "*Lectures and Lecturers*," was then renewed.

F. H. Smith, Washington, D. C. :

Mr. President :—It seemed to me while Bro. Martin, of Brooklyn, who opened this subject yesterday, was speaking, I saw a glow of admiration gather on the faces here, as he described the grand system of popular education carried on by the Brooklyn Association, through their Lecture Committee. I saw that with that feeling there seemed to be mingled one of pain. They were exceptions. No other Association in our Union has the financial standing to enable it to carry it on as an education free to those who attend. And the

object of my speaking for two or three minutes is to give some encouragement in the same direction to some poor Association which still desires to carry on the same system. It is our experience in the Washington Association during the last three years. For ten years prior to that time the Washington Association gave every winter a series of popular lectures, for which an admission fee was charged, and which resulted in a loss to the Association every season of from three to twelve hundred dollars. And the loss to the Association in money was the smallest part; for in consequence of the character of the lectures our Association had for that reason fallen into discredit with a considerable portion of our citizens. And it had become at that time a matter of very serious consultation and prayer as to what we should do. We came precisely to the same resolution as the Brooklyn Association did; that the lectures in Associations should be the means of education to the community. We determined to carry on a series of popular scientific lectures, and to employ the very best scientific men we could obtain from any institution, city or town in the country. Our Association had no power to give these lectures free to the people of Washington, and we therefore charged a rate of admission for the entire course, giving the benefit of reduced rates to the Association. Our members sold in advance of the lecture season tickets enough to pay for the entire expense. The lectures have gone on during three winters upon that plan, and they have been in our city equally as successful as Bro. Martin describes in Brooklyn. At the same time they have not only paid the expense, but they have been an increasing source of revenue. The first winter these scientific lectures netted \$500; the next about the same, but during the last winter, \$1,500. We have determined to pursue the same course, and secure for the next season the greatest scientific lecturers in the world.

We have not yet felt ourselves able to enter into these other educational instrumentalities Bro. Martin speaks of; but we hope ere long to do so.

Five minute addresses then followed.

Lewis D. Vail, Philadelphia:

We have had in our Philadelphia Association for several years lectures every Friday evening, without any cost to the Association, or any cost to the members. We found that the best Christian men of our city when applied to were willing to lecture to young men, and that scientific men, when they were asked in a proper manner, were willing to help young men. We have diversified the lectures. Sometimes on the Bible, by some gentleman who has travelled through the Holy Land, with illustrations, and chemical lectures, and lectures of all kinds. The best men of our city come every Friday, and the Hall is crowded every time with people.

Rev. N. Cyr, Rutland, Vt.:

In Rutland the first year the Lecture Committee made some mistakes, and the ministers felt it was their duty to go to the brethren and speak to them. To admonish each other is one of our duties. They made mistakes by inviting men to lecture who had no sympathy with Christianity. They invited women to lecture who made a very poor figure, who gave us most foolish lectures. Last Winter they did better, and I hope they will do better next year. So we had a good class of lectures and made money, about \$300 I think. Our place is very small.

Edgar A. Hutchins, New York :

I rise, desiring to hear the experience on this subject in small towns, the work in large cities having been very fully explained, and the difficulties being more generally found in small towns.

Dr. English, New Brunswick, N. J. :

Certainly our minds have been struck very forcibly and favorably with the proposition, as it has been made by Brother Martin, for large cities. It must be patent to every one that in smaller Associations it is utterly impossible to obtain the services of such men. And yet it seems to be thought necessary that Associations every year should have a course of lectures. I must say though, in considering this question, that I have been very doubtful whether it pays Associations to go into this work. In the City of New Brunswick we had a course of lectures the past season, and sold tickets to the amount of about \$1,200. These lectures cost us about \$900, so that the Association realized only \$300 as the result last year.

Now when I come to consider the amount of time given by the Committee on Lectures to this subject, it does seem as if the money and time might more properly have been expended in employing and paying a Secretary, or paying for the services of the men on the Lecture Committee in Christian work. But the brethren of our Association think otherwise, and we have these lectures. I would, however, recommend to other Associations, especially in the smaller towns and cities, that it is best not to have a great majority of the lecturers now in the lecture field. It has been our experience that it always pays to secure the very best men we can, such as Henry Ward Beecher and others.

I rise more particularly in reference to these free lectures. They always pay. For instance, one of our Professors in the College gives us a lecture on the telegraph, having instruments to explain to the masses. Another brother who has been in China gives us a history of the customs of the Chinese ; whilst one of the Professors gives us a very interesting account of his travels in Norway and Sweden. A great many of these free lectures are by our Professors and our Ministers. I believe they pay, and develop an interest in the Association.

Mr. Bowles, Springfield, Mass. :

We have a good brother on our Entertainment Committee who took the risk himself of a lecture course. We enjoyed the lectures, and when that course was through he brought up to the treasury of our Association \$64, as a gift to us.

At the conclusion of the discussion, some of the delegates were compelled to leave, and Chaplain C. M. Winchester sang one verse of

“The Home of the Soul.”

M. H. Gouge, of Windsor, N. S., offered prayer, which was followed by singing,

“Jesus, Saviour of My Soul.”

Prayer was then offered by A. B. Chaffee, of Saratoga Springs, N. Y., and R. R. McBurney, and the hymn,

“Shall We Gather at the River?”

The Business Committee, through J. H. Cheever, Chairman, offered the following "Resolutions of Thanks," which were unanimously adopted :

"The Convention desires to express to the Young Men's Christian Association of Lowell its sincere gratitude for the cordial invitation which it gave to the delegates to convene in this industrious city, and for the warmth of hospitality with which its members have received them ;

"To Governor Washburn of this State, Mayor Peabody of this City, and President Sleeper of this Association for their hearty welcome ;

"To Mayor Peabody, for his warm sympathy and the particular favor of Huntington Hall for the use of the Convention ;

"To those in charge of the railroad depot, for the conveniences afforded us, and unwearied regards to our needs ;

"To the officers of St. Pauls M. E. Church, who have so kindly opened their edifice, and placed at our control all their facilities ;

"To our friends generally, who have admitted us to their families, and regardless of their own ease and convenience, have made every provision for our comfort ;

"To the Manufacturing Corporations who have opened their splendid establishments to our inspection ;

"To such Railway and Steamboat Companies as have reduced their fares for our accommodation—especially to the Superintendent of the Fitchburg Road, for securing a free return over other roads—to E. J. Crossman, Esq., of this city, for proffering an extra train for our use, and also to John B. Winslow, Esq., Superintendent of the Boston and Lowell Road, for many favors, among others, for his generous offer to give the Convention a free pass to Boston ;

"To the Press of this City and the Correspondents of other papers who have given our discussions so wide a circulation ;

"To the Citizens who have attended our Sessions, and in so many ways have shown an interest in us ;

"To Biglow & Main, of New York, for donations of the beautiful Leaflets from "Songs of Devotion," providing the choicest expression to the inspiration of sacred song ;

"To Prof. W. H. Doane, of Cincinnati, and his assistants, for their admirable and devoted efforts in conducting our services of praise ;

"To the President of this Convention, for the able and impartial manner in which he has presided over the Sessions of this Convention. Also to all the officers associated with him, for the very satisfactory manner in which they have performed their duties ;

"To all these we owe and render our heartfelt gratitude, and shall long remember those whose acquaintance we have formed under such pleasant circumstances, and whose hospitality we have received ; and in taking leave of them here, we can truly say, in the language of the beautiful hymn,

When we asunder part
It gives us inward pain,
But we shall yet be joined in heart,
And hope to meet again."

The Business Committee reported an invitation from Hon. Gustavus V. Fox, President of the People's Club, to visit their Rooms, which was accepted, and the thanks of the Convention returned.

The Minutes of the Afternoon Session were read and approved.

Rev. R. A. Fink, of Johnstown, Pa., pronounced the benediction and the Convention adjourned.

PRAISE MEETING.—SATURDAY EVENING.

Huntington Hall this evening was crowded to its fullest capacity by an audience called together for song, prayer and conference—H. Thane Miller leading the service.

The meeting was opened with the singing of the hymns "Come thou Fount of every blessing," "Must Jesus bear the Cross?" and others.

The President spoke of the service appointed for the evening. He said :

By a vote of the Convention, this evening is to be spent in a free conference on the subject of personal consecration to Jesus. Now this meeting is open to persons who love the Lord Jesus Christ to bear their testimony, and to recom-

mend this religion of Jesus to all the rest of us, and to consecrate ourselves to Him. It is particularly desirable that the youngest members of the Convention should avail themselves of the opportunity to bear their testimony for Christ. This is not designed to keep off any others. Only we hope you will all take the very first opportunity you have to speak for Christ. May we by the grace of God go away better men and women than when we came.

T. C. Crocker, of Westerly, R. I., read the 8th Chapter of Romans. Arthur Chaffee, of Brooklyn, led in prayer. The rest of the evening was spent in short addresses, interspersed with singing, and prayer for special cases. The duet "Where do you wander brother?" was sung by Miss March and H. Thane Miller. Quite a number arose requesting prayer. After the benediction the meeting adjourned.

FAREWELL MEETING.—SUNDAY EVENING.

At 8 o'clock the meeting opened by the singing of the hymn
"Rock of Ages."

The Rev. Mr. Fink read the 15th Chapter of St. Luke's Gospel.

E. C. Lathrop read the following telegram, dated Waterbury, Conn. :

"Sunday evening we gather all the Churches, and Mr. Anderson will address them while you have your farewell."

GEO. W. BEACH.

He also remarked that at the outdoor meeting just closed, in front of this Hall, twelve persons rose for prayer. The Rev. J. Chester offered prayer, and "Jesus lover of my Soul" was sung.

President H. Thane Miller said :

To-night we hold the Farewell Meeting of the 17th Convention. We spend this evening as we have spent the others, in listening to gentlemen from this city, and gentlemen representing different localities in five minute addresses. Now my friends I beg of you while they speak these farewell words, to pray that God may speak through them. And dear friends who do not think you love the Lord Jesus Christ, see if there is not some message sent as to what you should do.

Rev. I. W. Hooper, Lynchburg, Va.:

When it was determined that I should come to the City of Lowell to attend this Convention, I confess that I had many conflicting emotions. I felt an interest and curiosity to see how the Southern men would be received. I confess that I have been overborne by the kindness, and courtesy and hospitality of

all the people who have met me. And I have been more and more rejoiced in heart by the kindness and Christian courtesy of the delegates. I shall return home to the brethren of my own Association, and tell them that I have heard the same songs of praise, the same petitions of prayer, and listened to the same glorious gospel of the grace of God that we hear in our own city. I shall ever thank God for the kindness which has enabled me to come here to stand for the first time on the soil of New England, and to meet for the first time in Convention with the members of the Associations. At many a time in the future shall I look back on the pleasant associations connected with this place and this occasion.

This is our Farewell Meeting. As we look in each other's faces for the last time on earth, the last time that all of this congregation shall meet together, until we will be before the judgment seat of Christ, when some will stand on the one side and some on the other side of the Judge, my brethren, let us carry these thoughts home with us, and remember the good people that have treated us so kindly in this city, in our prayers that the blessings of God may rest upon them. And that these precious souls that ask for an interest in our prayers, may be heard at the Throne of Grace, and that God's good spirit may lead them to the intention of living for Him. It is with a sad heart I bid farewell to these citizens, and to the delegates, but with an humble, abiding hope that if we never meet together on earth, we shall meet together in the general assembly of the church of the first-born, which is written in heaven.

"There is a Fountain filled with blood,"

was then sung by the Convention, after which the Rev. J. B. Smith, of the Methodist Church, Lowell, spoke as follows:

Mr. President and Christian Brethren:—The beautiful prayer we call the Lord's Prayer, leads us to say "Give us this day our daily bread." And it is then said to us, that bread in the prayer means not only the supply for our daily wants, not merely food for our physical system, but more than that—spiritual nutriment, the grace of God, that feeds and nourishes the heart. Upon this same principle of interpretation "farewell" means not only "may you fare well" as to daily supplies of nutriment and comfort, but more than that, higher than that—fare well as to the food of the soul. May God give you living bread as nourishment, strength and joy to the heart. And therefore, brethren of the Convention, we say to you to-night, with all our hearts, Farewell! May God be with you and supply you with all grace, strength and comfort until you go to sit with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, in heaven.

"Good Bye," means, as we are told sometimes, "God be with you." If so, then from our hearts to-night we say, Good Bye! God be with you as you go forth to labor, for if God be there, your labor shall not be in vain. You go forth to meet young men, and if God be there, ye shall have courage, and more than that, ye shall have even Him. So now, we say, remember the words of the great leader in the work of the Reformation, "The Lord God is with us."

"Jesus keep me Near the Cross,"

was sung, after which the Convention listened to

C. J. Littlefield, of Boston:

Mr. President, Brethren and Friends:—There are a great many things about this Convention that I shall remember as long as God gives me mind to remem-

ber anything. As I have watched its progress, my heart has been enlisted in sympathy with almost everything that has been said—certainly, with every prayer that has been offered. I shall go home strengthened and blessed from what I have heard and seen in this Convention. God has set His stamp of approval upon the efforts of these brethren as they have come together here to honor his name. I have had the pleasure of seeing twelve strong men ask the prayers of this Convention. As we go away, let us pray God that he may heal their souls. I feel we are going from this place strong in heart, better able to do more valiant service for the Master than ever before. We must guard against losing our individuality in these Associations. We are not going to heaven as Associations. We shall have to stand before God to be judged, not for what these Associations have done, but what we do individually.

“Nearer my God to Thee,”

was sung by the Convention.

C. E. Chichester, of South Carolina, was the next speaker. He said :

Brethren and Friends :—What is there not in that word—Friends? What makes us Friends? The love of Christ constraineth to forget all our differences, to cast behind us all our trials, tribulations, and to stand here friends of Jesus. Glorious Word! You are our friends—we are your friends—a friend because we have the same Master; a friend because we bow at the foot of the same Cross. It is with deep feeling that I stand here representing my precious country. A country I love as you love your part of it. When I go back I shall tell my friends there of the friends I met here. What noble hearts you have! What earnest men and women you are. [Applause.] Now we are to say farewell. We are to go home. That is another precious word. Away yonder in our far distant homes are loving hearts, thinking of us now, praying for us; stretching out their arms and saying “Come home!” There is another One who stands right near you all the time, with outstretched arms, and saying to you, Brother, Friend, come home! Is there none here who is a stranger from his home? Is there none here who is a stranger from Christ? Is there none here who feels that his heart is estranged to that blessed Jesus, who, with loving arms says, “Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”

The President sang by request

“The Prodigal Son,”

James Butterick, Lowell :

Mr. President and Brethren of the Convention :—A very pleasant duty has been assigned me to-night—that of representing our Association in this closing meeting; and I accept the honor which this assignment brings me with some diffidence. I may not be able to express what is in my heart and what is in the heart and the love of those 350 members of our Association. It seems as though it were but an hour or two ago since our good Governor stood here on this stage and welcomed you to our City, and we welcomed you to our homes, and proffered you a place at our family altars, and thereby witnessed to you as we could in no other way the cordiality and sincerity of our welcome. So pleasant has been your influence in our homes, so grateful have been your words, so strengthening your prayers, so invigorating your faith and holy zeal

that we should repeat the welcome of last Wednesday night with a hundred-fold interest were it possible. There is to-night an undertone of sadness. Such are the uncertainties and possibilities of the future, so great and mysterious are the providences of God, that when we come to say "good bye," our pleasure in our meeting is half alloyed with pain. Dear brethren, that is our feeling to-night. We think that it almost makes a man of the world Christian to say "good bye," if he says it vocally. But, friends, we have come here for this purpose, and to Christian hearts there is a brighter side to a farewell meeting. Above all,

" 'Tis sweet when thus we sever,
Since parting with a Saviour's love,
We part to meet for ever."

But before saying that word, farewell, suffer me one word. It is said that a three-fold cord is not easily broken. We would fain to-night weave a three-fold cord of Gospel truth with which to bind your hearts and your memories indissoluble to the sweet associations of the hour. Since invited to take part here to-night, there has been resting upon me the injunction of the Apostle to Timothy, "Keep thyself pure." Brethren, we repeat it as we part with you, keep yourselves pure. So intimate is our usefulness allied to our holiness, so closely connected is what we do with what we are, that we must ever bear in mind this injunction of the Apostle to keep ourselves pure. Naturalists tell us of a little animal so jealous of its purity that the least spot on its fur costs it the greatest anxiety from its contact. And those who seek for it know its characteristics, surround its haunts with filth, and the little animal rather than attempt escape delivers itself up and sacrifices its life. In the same way, dear friends, we should all feel in reference to sin.

But there is another thought, the second cord with which we bind you, and it is in the same Apostle's injunction. "I am determined to know nothing save Jesus Christ and Him crucified." Singleness of purpose. Brethren, there is no other object, with all these powers God has given us, than the Cross of Christ.

Again, I am reminded by the fact that I stand here to-night to say farewell. A day, a year, and the same farewell to life may come; life will soon be gone. Then brethren, in this three-fold cord let us bind ourselves to do this; taking our purity and our singleness of purpose let us add, "whatsoever our hands find to do, do it with all our might." Brethren Farewell!

"And now I commend you to God" on behalf of our Association, "and the word of His grace which is able to build you up and to give you an inheritance among all them who are sanctified."

The hymn

"Meet me Again for one more Friendly Greeting,"

was then sung.

James Bayliss, Montreal, said:

Mr. President, Brothers of the Delegation, Christian Friends and Citizens of Lowell:—In the hour of supreme exaltation of this Convention, it is no small honor to be called upon to speak for one's fellows. I find myself in that position now, called upon, unfit as I am for the duty, to answer for my brethren from the British Provinces. Brothers, the honor was put upon me because of my long connection with the Y. M. C. A. It was my honor to welcome to our

city years ago the International Convention. It was the fourth, about 1858, when I as President of the Association, welcomed them to our hearts and homes as you have welcomed us. I now give you our most earnest and grateful thanks for the kindness of the welcome you have extended to us. We come from all parts of that land. From the East, the West, and from the Maritime Provinces, and the brethren representing them, desire me to say this to you from their hearts, that when you extend your hands, looking through your eyes deep down into the heart, they feel they grasp a brother. Mr. Chairman, in that Convention I have mentioned, I have kept with me and brought with me to this Convention, that which I esteem among my greatest treasures. Things which gold could not buy, although in themselves of insignificant value, but they are the sign and symbol of friendships formed under the influence of Christian love, that I hope when I die to hand to my children. Did time permit here I could read from that packet the names of men in that Convention on cards which I exchanged with friends who are now scattered over this wide world; who in their places do their duty to God and man. Now as time flies so rapidly, I want to say in thus thanking you, it is not mere words, but words symbolizing the idea of unity; the unity with which we are bound, a unity sanctified by Christian love, which has brought us here to meet you and to receive your welcome greeting. When men go forth they follow a leader. We come at the command and under the guidance of King Jesus. Now a King rules, and to His sceptre we bow. And we, the young men of the Christian Associations, hope to be the vanguard that shall lead in every good work which has permeated your broad land and our fair provinces. What shall be our rallying cry? The rallying cry we have and you have, is, "God with us." God being with us, who shall be against us? And that leader gives us a banner; and upon that banner a wondrous sign. It is but a simple cross, but it is a glorious power. By that we learn to love, confide and endure; and with that love, confidence and endurance, we go forth to whatever He has called us. We know the power of the good old flag. These good old flags have power. Your country and ours have been led to deeds of glorious daring under those banners. Our hearts thrilled, I know, when a former speaker in compliment to us, referred to them as being side by side in peace, I say Amen! [Applause.] May the binding cord ever be "The love of Christ constraineth." I think these flags held by that tie shall lead the vanguard for every good cause to a glorious victory. [Applause.] And brothers, ten thousand causes of discord should be put aside rather than that bond should be severed, rather than these two great peoples springing from one race, and speaking one language, should ever do anything to break the unity that now binds these symbols of glorious memories together.

The hymn

"Blest be the tie that binds,"

was then sung by the Convention.

The Rev. Mr. Martin, of Brooklyn, was called upon by the President to pray for the twelve men who requested the prayers of the Convention before the hall this evening.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Martin, after which the

Rev. John P. Hubbard, of Boston, spoke. He said:

A blessed theme has been given in the hymn we have sung of this brother-

hood in Jesus. And that has been the feeling which has been in our hearts as we have been gathered here together. How can anybody doubt the reality of the religion of Jesus? How can anybody see such a gathering of young men as have come up to this city, drawn here by no motive but the constraining love of Jesus in their hearts? How can anybody doubt the reality of this religion? You are all familiar, or most of you probably, with what Napoleon has put on record as to the Divinity of Christ. On one occasion, to one of his generals who was questioning about it, one of the proofs that this great man brought forward was this—he said “that Alexander and Charlemagne founded empires, and those empires had been founded upon force, and where are they,” said he, “to-day? But Jesus Christ founded an empire upon love, and to-day there are millions who would die for Him.” And thus so it is. The love of Jesus is the one single thing in the heart of the Christian.

One of the soldiers of this same Napoleon, who had been shot by a bullet, was dying. The surgeon was endeavoring to extract the bullet from his heart. As he was probing and cutting, the man said, with a smile on his face, looking up in the surgeon's face, “Cut a little deeper and you will find the Emperor.” There was love in the heart of those soldiers for their leader. But, oh! think what the soldiers of Jesus have done for Him. Think of this love which binds them together. Dear friends, can there be any question with regard to that which is thus moving upon the hearts of men through the centuries? And what is this Jesus to us individually? Many of us have been carried through doubts and difficulties, but we have ever been kept by one thing. We have anchored on this love of Jesus, this presence of Jesus in our souls. I might doubt my existence, I might doubt the sun shining in the heavens, I might doubt as to the reality of this world around me, but I can't doubt my Saviour. We commend this Saviour to all of you, especially to you who are young. And our one earnest petition, our invitation to you who have not yet come to Him is, come, then, with us, and He will do thee good. Look at this band of young men marching under the banner of Jesus. All of us who are soldiers of Christ must die. But we shall live again. We shall see Jesus triumphant, and see the kingdoms of this world under Jesus Christ. Come with us. Let the one thing, brethren, be love for Jesus. Our power is Jesus in our hearts. Our power is to give up all to Jesus. Here is a noble field of usefulness in that life which is entirely consecrated to Jesus.

“Sound the battle cry ” was sung.

R. R. McBurney, New York :

Friends of Lowell, we have been sitting together in the sessions of this Convention, and we have been enjoying the presence of the Saviour. We have had our hearts touched and strengthened by mutual communion with the Saviour. And now as our Convention is closing, one thought presses very heavily upon my mind. It is this, that there are probably very many persons in this audience who have attended these meetings, who have been impressed with the importance of giving their hearts to the Lord Jesus Christ. To-night, now, in this solemn meeting, in the presence of God, and in the presence of this audience, you are to-night as far away from the Saviour as you were before the Convention commenced. I would that I might be the means of leading some young man who perchance may have come in here this evening careless, indifferent, to consider the claims of the Gospel, or some young man who is balancing in his mind the service of the world with the service of the Lord. It is very ques-

tionable whether you will have in your experience as favorable an opportunity of offering your heart to Christ as you have to-night. You have heard the earnest words of exhortation in these meetings, our voice of earnest prayer, as it has ascended to the throne of God for the power of His Spirit to fall upon you. As Christian friends we are in sympathy with you, and are anxiously longing to have you yield your hearts to Christ. For we are banded together in this organization, and we come to the Convention year after year for no other purpose but that we may be the means, in the hands of our blessed Master, of winning precious souls to God. We entreat of you as one man, to-night, that you will yield to our Master who has saved us. He is ready to save you. Yea, "He saves to the uttermost all who will come unto Him." Hear his invitation, accept the opportunity which we offer you in Christ's stead, and become reconciled to Him.

"Come to Jesus" was sung.

D. Henry Miller, D.D., Lowell:

I am pleased more than I can express, that by the call of this worthy President, and the arrangement of the Committee, I am to utter a few words—closing words, before listening to the words of the gentleman who has presided over the sessions of this Convention. I can hardly express, Mr. President, what I feel in my heart. I confess to a love of Bible truth, and the sentiments to which we have listened this evening from my youth up. And I have been delighted and pleased to-night by the perfect harmony and unison of the sentiments uttered by our brothers, when allusion was made by our honored friend and fellow laborer in this city, of the union of these flags, and we listened with delight to the kind response of the brother from Canada, who thought it was a matter of compliment. I could tell him it embraced something more than compliment. Brother Smith meant all that he said, and I say Amen to it. I have loved that old flag there that my brother said so much about. Why, I ask, what has made England the life of Europe?—made and given her power, but her love of the precious principles of the Gospel. There is a silent power here which overcomes the spirit of strife, "Christ for the world and the world given to Christ."

The Convention then sang,

"Shall we Gather at the River,"

the ladies of the audience singing the verse and the gentlemen joining in the chorus.

The President, H. Thane Miller, made the closing address as follows:

Dear friends, in a very few moments the delegates will be called to take their stand upon the platform and in front of it, and with clasped hands, sing the last song of the Convention. But, you will pardon me if I say a few words before we go. My friends of Lowell, you do not find yourselves here to-night where you were last Sunday night. There is a different, wider and more important responsibility resting upon you than a week ago, because the attention of a very large portion of the community has been called to the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour. And there are men and women in this town more than has been mentioned in these public meetings, who are anxious about

their souls. Pastors of Lowell, you will have to preach Christ so earnestly, so plainly, so lovingly, that these men and women shall receive Him as their personal Saviour. You officers of the church must rally around the pastor in prayer and counsel as you have never done before. And the membership of these churches, dearly beloved, you must live such godly, consistent Christian lives, that these men and women who are looking to Jesus shall see Him who on account of the blindness of sin cannot see far off, but will see Jesus if you live Him out and let them see His character in your lives. Christian women of Lowell, there is such a looking to you, such a criticism of your lives now, as there never has been before. All bow at the foot of the Cross and pray quietly for the baptism of the Holy Spirit and for the indwelling of Christ in your hearts and lives, that everybody may recognize you as a child of God. Strive to attain this higher Christian living day by day.

Parents, I have heard some of the children of this city say to-day that they will love and serve Jesus. Parents, you ought to pray now for your children as you never prayed before. God's spirit is moving upon the hearts of these very children. The delegates have been telling what has been done for Christ, and for their own souls, and the children are anxious to be saved. Talk to your children, pray with them, see to it that they come into the Kingdom now. Parents, there is a responsibility resting upon you to come up to the help of the Lord. Not only in the churches, but in the Association of Lowell. You ought to attend the prayer-meetings and offer up your prayers there. I have been asking and find that ten or twenty go there morning after morning. It should not be less than 200. Business men, how can you commence the day better than by gathering around the Cross of Jesus and getting strength? Business men, support this Association as you have never done before. You ought now, or very soon, to give this Association such an amount that they shall see erected a building in the name of Jesus Christ, which they will be proud of. You ought to give them such attractive rooms that men will come into them.

John S. Maclean offered prayer, after which the delegates of the Convention assembled, and in front of the platform joined hands and sang

"All hail the power of Jesus' Name."

The benediction was pronounced by the Rev. Geo. A. Hall, of Washington, and the 17th International Convention was declared adjourned *sine die*.

The meeting in Huntington Hall was so large that the First Congregational Church in Merrimack Street was opened to accommodate the overflowing crowds that assembled to attend the Farewell Exercises. Peter B. Simons, of Philadelphia, presided.

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE CONVENTION.

(For Record of Appointment see page 31.)

COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.

ALFRED SANDHAM,	- - - - -	Montreal.
I. W. BEARD,	- - - - -	Lowell, Mass.
W. R. LAMBERT,	- - - - -	Emory, Va.
JACOB K. WALTZ,	- - - - -	New Albany, Ind.
H. P. ADAMS,	- - - - -	Dayton, Ohio.
E. BLUNT,	- - - - -	Nashua, N. H.
JAMES MELDRUM,	- - - - -	Washington.

COMMITTEE ON ASSOCIATIONS.

GEO. A. YOUNG,	- - - - -	Hamilton, Ont.
RUSSELL STURGES, JR.,	- - - - -	Boston, Mass.
S. A. TAGGART,	- - - - -	Pittsburg, Pa.
ERSKINE UHL,	- - - - -	Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
E. O. BLUNT,	- - - - -	Nashua, N. H.
F. W. HALES,	- - - - -	Charlottetown, P. E. I.
H. M. BROWN,	- - - - -	Howard University.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE.

J. H. CHEEVER,	- - - - -	Cincinnati, Ohio.
H. B. CHAMBERLIN,	- - - - -	Fulton, N. Y.
PETER B. SIMMONS,	- - - - -	Philadelphia.
CHARLES C. LATHROP,	- - - - -	Newark, N. J.
J. M. HORNER,	- - - - -	Grand Rapids, Mich.
W. R. LAMBETH,	- - - - -	Emory, Va.
J. W. HAMILTON,	- - - - -	Somerville, Mass.

COMMITTEE ON THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

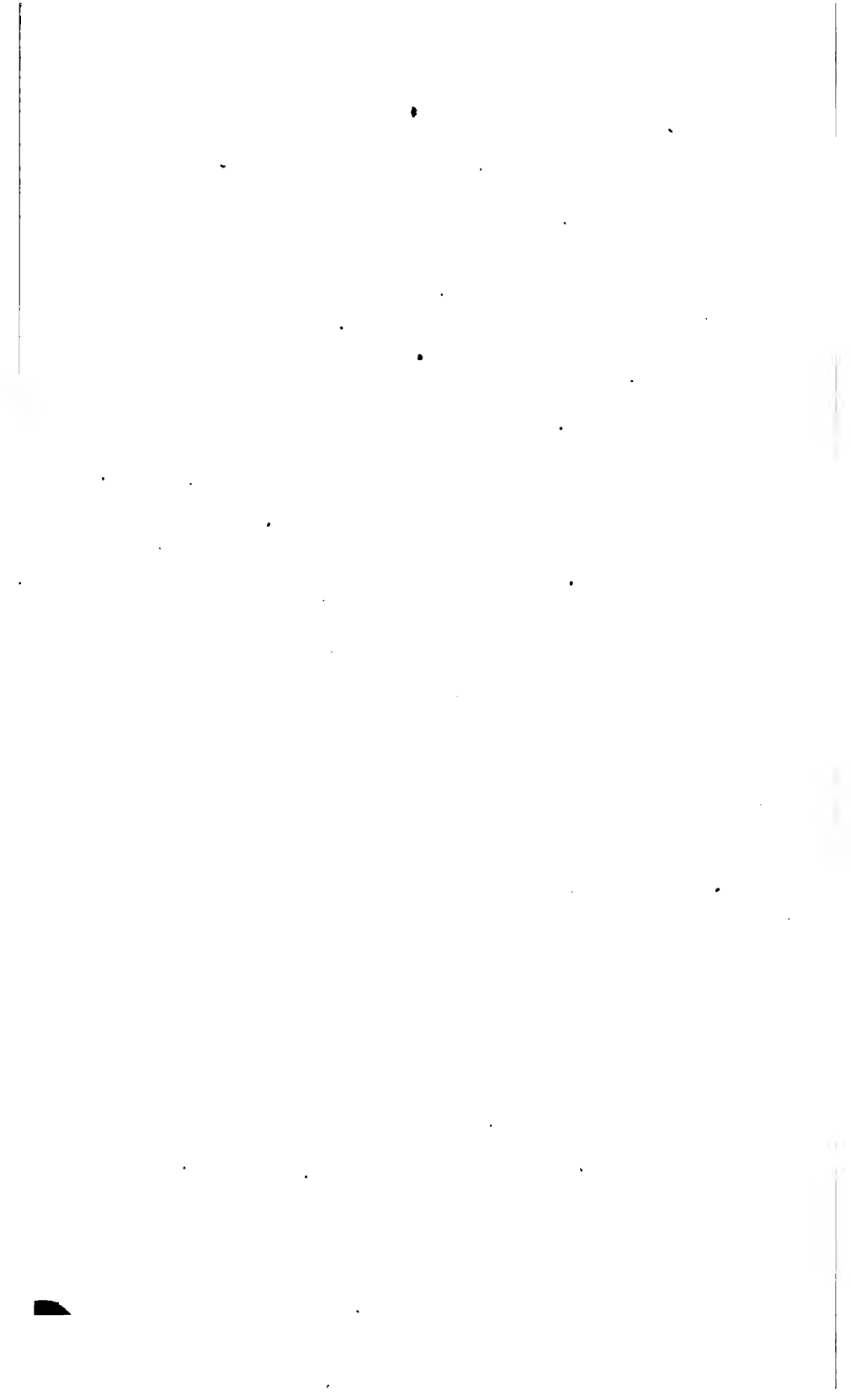
F. H. SMITH,	- - - - -	Washington, D. C.
H. P. HOADLEY,	- - - - -	New Haven, Conn.
L. A. BISHOP,	- - - - -	Bristol, R. I.
GEORGE A. CHRISTIE,	- - - - -	Pictou, N. S.
H. H. BURGESS,	- - - - -	Portland, Me.
WM. H. IRWIN,	- - - - -	Wheeling, W. Va.
H. L. MCKEE,	- - - - -	Selma, Ala.

COMMITTEE ON DEVOTIONAL AND OPEN-AIR MEETINGS.

THOMAS MARSHALL,	- - - - -	Philadelphia.
GEORGE A. HALL,	- - - - -	Washington, D. C.
H. P. ADAMS,	- - - - -	Dayton, Ohio.
T. A. STEVENS,	- - - - -	Waterbury, Vt.
W. ANDERSON,	- - - - -	Toronto, Ont.
H. B. WHITE,	- - - - -	St. John, N. B.
GEORGE E. LOVEJOY,	- - - - -	Lowell, Mass.

COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

WILLIAM M. MARTIN,	- - - - -	Brooklyn, N. Y.
WILLIAM H. ANDERSON,	- - - - -	Providence, R. I.
JAMES K. BLAIR,	- - - - -	Truro, N. S.



REPORT

OF THE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF THE

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS

OF THE

UNITED STATES AND BRITISH PROVINCES,

PRESENTED TO THE LOWELL CONVENTION, JUNE 12, 1872,

(WITH ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS.)



New York:

PUBLISHED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

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REPORT

To the Seventeenth Annual Convention of the Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces.

The Executive Committee presents the following as its sixth annual report :

I.—The reports of the Corresponding Members of this Committee accompany this report. So few were received at the time specified in our circular, that it was deemed unadvisable to print them in advance of the action of the Convention. So far as material to the immediate purpose of this report, they have been employed.

The following Provinces and States have reported : Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Ontario, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Virginia, Georgia, Louisiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, West Virginia, and District of Columbia.

II.—There have been seventeen Local Conventions the past year, viz. : The Maritime Provinces, Canada, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, West Virginia, and one of the Associations composed of colored men in South Carolina. Twelve of these were attended by members of the Executive Committee, and one by Mr. Weidensall as its representative. They were all fairly attended by delegates. Some were occasions of great interest and usefulness.

III.—The agents representing the Committee, Robert Weidensall and Richard C. Morse, have performed a most effective service the past year. Mr. Weidensall has completed his canvass of Indiana, commenced some eighteen months since ; has visited some Associations in other Northern States ; and has visited all the Associations of which we have any knowledge in the States of West Virginia, Kentucky, Virginia, North and South Carolina,

Mississippi and Louisiana. He reports twenty new societies established. Everywhere his reception was most cordial. •

Mr. Morse began his work of visitation in November, and suspended it early in May. The whole of his time was employed in Connecticut, Rhode Island, Maine, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick. No effort was made to form new Associations; he was instructed to visit, encourage, and do what he could to invigorate those already existing. The Committee desire the Convention to hear each report; the delegates will thus obtain a clear idea of the need for this work, and of the mode in which it has been performed.

IV.—The new Executive Committee will, if it is deemed best to continue the employment of agents, find two gentlemen, Messrs. Weidensall and Morse, who are thoroughly conversant with all our work in all its phases, fully informed in the particulars of the history of the Association, which is to such a considerable extent traditional, and able to cope with the difficulties presented on any field. This is counted by your Committee as an advance. Six years ago it would have been next to impossible to find one man who could be trusted as a representative of the Convention, who was willing to undertake the employment of visitation. It is believed that these two gentlemen should be continued in the work they have prosecuted so well.

The Associations cannot stop in this work without retrograding. They must go on. The cause demands that every Association in the land be visited at least once every year by representatives of the Executive Committee; nor does visitation by State Committees, useful as it is, supersede the necessity of this.

V.—Three of the State Executive Committees have during the past year employed agents for local visitation, viz.: Connecticut, New York and Pennsylvania. Others would have employed agents had they been able to obtain suitable persons. No one can do this work well who is unacquainted with the history of the Associations and with the literature which their existence has evoked. He must be wise, prudent, pious; a sensible and correct speaker, with a faculty for organization, as well as exhortation;

one who can answer objections and avoid difficulties, and influence individual men, as well as conduct mass and prayer meetings.

VI.—Concerning the MONTHLY, a detailed statement will be formally presented.

Little more than an abstract of the same is deemed necessary now. In view of the rapid multiplication of our Associations, and the wide extent of territory occupied by them, the MONTHLY which was called into existence at Portland, and fully endorsed at Indianapolis and Washington, seems to be indispensable.

Without it we should have no adequate medium of communication, and the knowledge of each Association would be limited, in a great measure, to its own experience, while with it the experience of each is made available to all; and thus the failure of one becomes a warning, and the success of another an incentive to a thousand others. It is needed also to harmonize effort, and maintain unity of purpose and action, if we desire to consolidate our Associations into a bulwark of Christian strength, or marshal them into an army of Christian progress, and it is needed to make known our work and purposes to pastors and others, whose intelligent co-operation is essential.

But to make it of use as a medium of communication, an educator of the membership, and an exponent of our work, it must be both published and circulated. To secure these results, one of three things must be done. Its subscription list must be increased by the immediate efforts of Associations among their own members or others, or a publication fund must be raised to sustain it while it works its way more slowly; or Associations must subscribe for it and distribute it according to their own discretion. The first method is believed to be preferable; it would not only put the MONTHLY into the hands of the membership at once, but it would secure the funds needed for its publication by the simple payment of individual subscriptions from year to year, without further appeal to the Associations; and in addition to this, it would produce an income sufficient to carry on the general work devised by the Convention. But the MONTHLY is devoted exclusively to a single purpose, and cannot, like popular magazines, appeal to all classes for support; its circulation is

limited to our Associations, and virtually to those members only who are or can be interested in Association work. This may make a fund necessary for a time.

The issue has been nearly six thousand copies monthly for the current year.

If there is an increase in the subscriptions for the remainder of the year, such as may rightfully be expected, we shall be able to close the third year of the paper free from debt in its behalf. But the Committee indulges the hope that the action of this Convention will place this matter beyond any doubt, by enabling the future Executive Committee to continue the publication upon a basis which will secure a large increase in the subscription list. The cost of publication is little less than nine hundred dollars per month; this must be met with regularity.

VII.—The correspondence with Associations abroad has been mainly conducted as heretofore, by Mr. James Stokes, Jr. The interest which the Societies on both sides of the Atlantic take in each other increases each year.

The General Conference of the Young Men's Christian Associations of all lands will assemble at Amsterdam on the 22d day of August next. It is well known that the Conference was called for last year, but was postponed in consequence of the Franco-German War. The programme as now arranged, has already appeared in the MONTHLY. Most urgent and fraternal letters have been received from the Committee of Arrangements in reference to delegations from America. It is believed that the American Associations can be better represented this year than ever before in any General Conference. Some of your best men are already abroad, several are about to leave, and all have been solicited to, and doubtless will, so arrange their tours as to attend upon the sessions of this Conference.

This Committee will submit to the Committee on its report for presentation to the Convention at a future session, a list of persons who have promised to represent the Association if authorized to do so by this Convention.

VIII.—The following is a summary of the Report of the Treasurer :

The Committee had on hand at the last Report.....	\$1,164 99
Subscriptions received at Washington and paid.....	2,646 21
Previous Conventions.....	1,790 00
Sale of Annual Report of Washington Convention.....	854 90
Sale of Annual Report of previous Convention.....	107 65
From sale of Life Membership Certificates.....	98 14
From sale of Songs of Devotion—two years.....	541 83
Sundries.....	97 00
Expended.....	<u>\$8,735 72</u>
Salary of Mr. Weidensall, \$3,125 } Travelling expenses, \$420.83 }	\$2,545 83
\$737 of this is last year's indebtedness.	
Salary of Mr. Morse, \$1,041.65 } Travelling expenses, \$191.78 }	1,233 43
Expenses of the "Monthly".....	1,750 00
Travelling expenses of persons attending Conventions at invitation of the Committee.....	105 00
Publishing Annual Report, &c.....	766 00
Printing, Postage and Stationery.....	695 16
Miscellaneous expenses.....	317 87
Balance in hands of Committee, from which is to be de- ducted the expenses of the Convention.....	1,412 43
Now due from subscriptions \$3,901 }	4,289 50
Now due from Reports \$888.50 }	

The balance, now in the hands of the Treasurer, is of recent origin. Throughout the year the Committee has not had money enough to attempt a larger work than they have done. But large sums have been paid in, all out of subscriptions made at the Washington Convention, since the call of this Convention was issued. If they had been made at an earlier period, it would have been advantageous to our work.

Detailed statements of all receipts and expenditures, on account of general expense, as well as those relating to the MONTHLY, will be placed in the hands of the proper Committee of the Convention.

IX.—In view of the fact that this Convention is called upon to locate and appoint a new Executive Committee, this Committee does not feel called upon to make many recommendations.

It would suggest, however :

1. That the publication of the periodical, as a weekly of 8 or 12 pages, of the same size, and possessing the same general features as the MONTHLY, be considered by this Convention.

2. That one or more agents be employed by the Association for aggressive work.

3. That the observance of a day of prayer be recommended to the Association, as heretofore.

4. That as many members of our Association as can attend the Amsterdam Conference be delegated from this Convention to that body.

5. That the Committee be authorized to employ a General Secretary.

6. The Committee on this report should, at the earliest moment consistent with due deliberation, nominate the new Executive Committee; to the end that those appointed may, before the adjournment of this Convention, become somewhat familiar with the work committed to them, and to some extent prepare the details of their plans before the adjournment. There should be no change in the mode of constituting the Committee.

7. That the essays of Dr. Verranus Morse, on the work of the Associations in small towns; that of Mr. Richard C. Morse, on the Christian Association and its work; and the three pamphlets issued by the Executive Committee, entitled "Suggestions for the Organization of Young Men's Christian Associations," the "Test of Membership," and the work of the Corresponding Members of the Executive Committee, or parts of the same, together with the Rules to be compiled, as hereafter proposed, be published as a part of the Manual of the Associations, heretofore ordered.

8. That the Executive Committee be directed to compile from the reports of the doings of our Annual Conferences, issued since 1863, the various resolutions and declarations relating to the government of the Conventions and the Associations connected with it, including the Rules of Order; and that these be published as the permanent rules of the Young Men's Christian Associations in their associated action.

9. This Committee requests the Convention to reserve to it the authority to prepare and issue the report of this Convention, and also to edit and issue the July number of the MONTHLY, and audit and pay the bills incident to this Convention. These seem to be

more properly a closing of the work of the year past than the commencement of the work of a new year.

X.—Eighteen years ago this month the first Convention of these Associations convened at Buffalo. The Committee on Credentials reported at the organization that there were twenty-eight persons entitled to sit as delegates. There were then twenty-six associations on the continent. A year later fifty-two delegates presented credentials at Cincinnati, and the number of Associations had increased to fifty-four, with an average membership of three hundred and eighty-eight.

At Albany, in 1866, the Associations having resumed their proper work, sixty-seven were reported as in operation. Fifty-two were there represented by two hundred and fifty-nine delegates. There was no limit to the number of delegates from any Association. Then one Association had a home of its own, and three had commenced serious efforts to raise funds for the erection of buildings. It is probable that at that time the sum of \$350,000 had actually been appropriated to building purposes.

At Montreal the matter of building was brought prominently before the delegates, and since that Convention it has been constantly urged upon the attention of the brethren by this Committee.

There are now 844 Associations on the roll, which are believed by the Committee to have a potential existence. This is seventy more than a year ago.

Three hundred and eighteen have reported to this Convention. Two hundred and seventy-four report a membership of 52,506, being an average of 192, and 196 less than the average at Cincinnati seventeen years ago. The Associations are now prosecuting their work in smaller towns; then they were confined to the large cities.

Now twenty-seven have buildings, valued at \$1,233,800. The home of the Chicago Association has, as all know, been again destroyed by fire.

Sixty-two Associations have building funds amounting, in the aggregate, to \$552,640. The amount invested in buildings and building funds, exclusive of the Chicago building, one year ago,

was \$1,541,501. The total amount now invested in buildings and building funds is \$1,786,440, showing a gain of \$244,939. Two hundred and eighty-four Associations report their current expenses at \$263,482.86.

There are now twenty-six Associations in colleges and literary institutions. There has been an addition of seventy to the number of Associations the past year. The present enumeration is believed to be accurate. In everything that goes to make a real advance, there is much to encourage. In the Provinces and States, where there has been a fair attempt at general work, progress has been most satisfactory. The working Associations have increased in strength and aggressive power. The additions to their working force have been considerable, and there has been quiet, but most earnest and profitable religious interest. There have been many conversions.

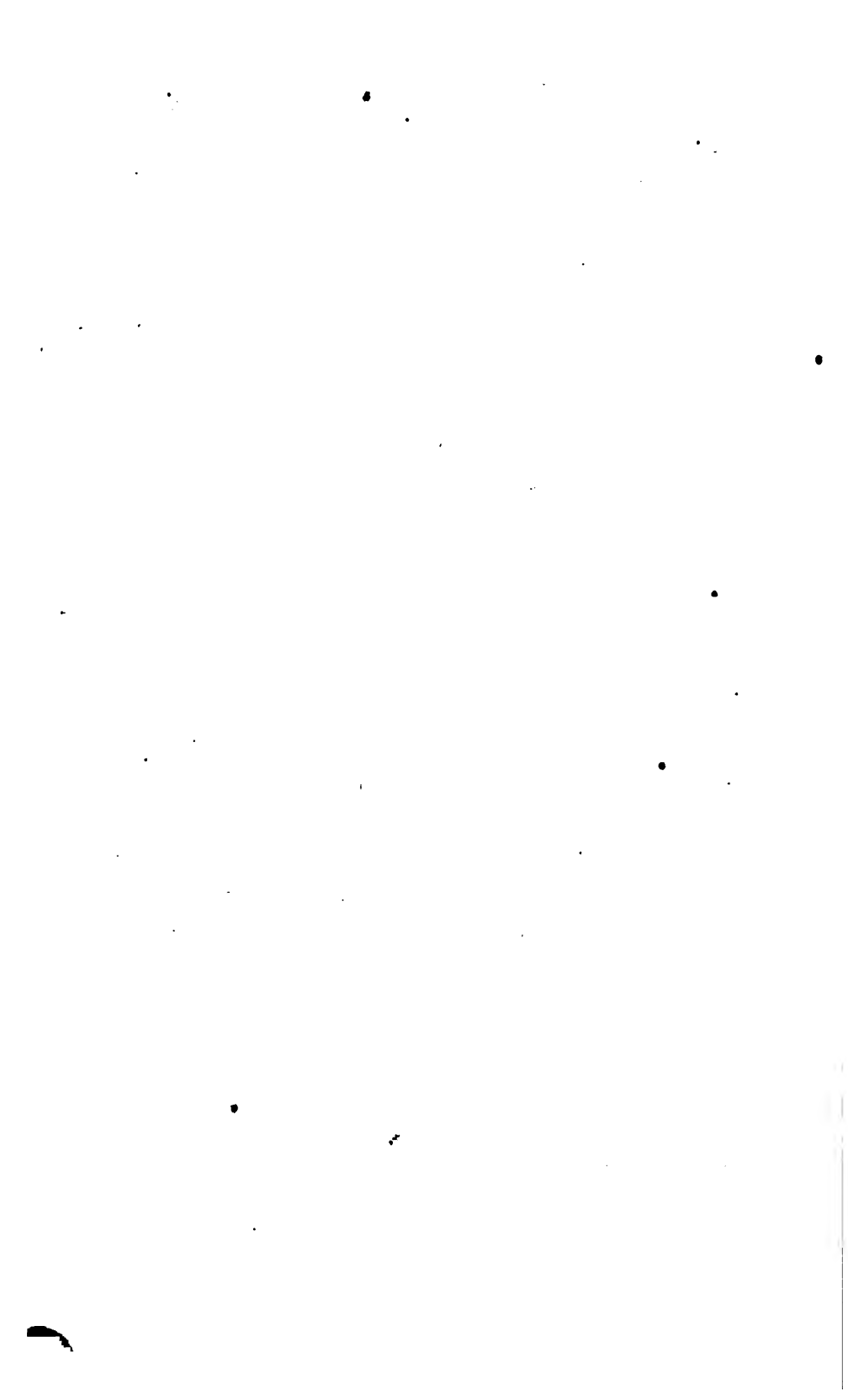
The abandonment of Associations, reported as active one year ago, has been almost wholly among those which hardly contemplated the prosecution of a strict Association work, as defined in our constitutions. Many of them had a limited field of service, and no efforts were made by neighboring Associations to encourage or teach those seeking to engage in the work who were connected with them. Your Committee could not reach them, and hence discouragement, and shortly surrender. The Association cause was never so strong on this continent as it is to-day. It never commanded so much money; never had so strong a hold as now upon public sympathy; never have Association men seen so clearly as now, that it is their overshadowing duty in these societies, to labor primarily, chiefly, always for the salvation of young men; and never has the Great Head of the Church more richly blessed their efforts than in the year now closed.

Here terminates, except for the purposes of this Convention, the work of the present Executive Committee.

The trust most unexpectedly committed to us at Albany six years ago, and as unexpectedly recommitted to us three years ago at Portland is now surrendered. Grateful to God for the opportunity he has given us to bear a part in the mighty work of these Associations for the young men of the land; grate-

ful for the unwavering confidence and support of the brethren ;
for the large opportunity for correspondence and conference with
them which it has afforded to each of us, we hope soon to see this
trust committed to more efficient hands.

CEPHAS BRAINERD, JAMES STOKES, JR., TIMOTHY G. SELLEW, JR., ROBERT R. McBURNEY, EDGAR A. HUTCHINS, BENJAMIN C. WETMORE, VERRANUS MORSE.	}	<i>Executive Committee.</i>
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REPORT OF MR. WEIDENSALL.

On my way home from the Washington Convention, I visited a considerable number of Associations and participated in their meetings.

One of these meetings was agreed upon before I left Washington, and deserves special mention. It was held under the auspices of the Altoona, Pa., Association, in one of the largest churches of that place. Addresses were delivered by Mr. Simons, of Philadelphia, Rev. Henry Baker, of Altoona, and myself. The church was filled to its utmost capacity. The music was excellent. Indeed the whole exercise was full of interest.

I left home on the 10th of July to commence my mission work proper for the year just closed. Although hopeful of success, I offered up a fervent prayer, as the train swept along, that the Lord would bless my labors as he had never done before. Notwithstanding my shortcomings and mistakes, he has abundantly answered my prayer.

I have traveled 13,650 miles, stopped in 112 cities and towns, visited 42 Associations, assisted by advice and otherwise 32 existing Associations, re-organized 2 Associations that had ceased to do Christian work, and prepared the way to effect 18 new organizations. I first found something to do in St. Louis. The President of that Association had sent in his resignation, and a resolution was before the Executive Committee to disband the Association, or at least to suspend operations for the time being. It was sad news for me. I learned this fact about a week before the Committee was to act upon it, all of which time I used in visiting the members of the Committee to dissuade them from such a rash act. They all conversed freely and were anxious to get advice, that they might do the best under the circumstances. I told them that they should neither disband nor suspend the Association (which, indeed, it was not in their power to do), but to suspend the reading-room, if they thought best, and curtail their expenses as much as possible.

From St. Louis I went to Indiana to finish up what I had left undone the year before. In Terre Haute I found an inactive Association with three hundred or more dollars in the Treasury.

Its last President was a zealous Christian worker, and many of those who constituted the membership were favorable to a revival of the old organization. A meeting was called, which was fairly attended, and in which it was unanimously resolved to take up the old organization, and if they could do but little at first, to do that little well.

I then went southward to Vincennes, an old French town. Though large enough for an Association, another institution engrossed the attention of the people. I at once proceeded to Evansville, the second largest place in Indiana. Found a few men engaged in general Christian work, and a Young Men's organization in one of the Presbyterian Churches, but found no encouragement from any one to attempt a general organization.

At Shawneetown, Ill., though a small place, I found a live Association. They are not satisfied with their own village work, but go out into the country.

They maintain a daily prayer-meeting. Whilst I was there a street service was arranged for on a week evening. A colored man was sent around the town with a bell and the Court-house bell was rung twice. A large crowd soon gathered, to which it was a pleasure to speak. There seemed to be no jealousy, but all worked for a common purpose, whether officer or private. Thence I went up the Ohio River to New Albany, where I received a favorable report, from the Association organized in that city under such unfavorable circumstances. They had succeeded beyond all expectations in their cottage prayer-meetings. I asked them whether they had tried street preaching. They shrugged their shoulders and declared that they would be ridiculed if they would attempt such a thing. I told them I would speak if they would assist in the meeting. A cabinet organ was taken on to the street corner, and an experienced musician took charge of the singing. One hymn was scarcely sung before the multitude thronged on every side. After singing another hymn, I spoke to a most attentive audience for twenty-five minutes. Thinking that no others wanted to speak, I dismissed the congregation after a closing hymn; but many of the members of the Association thought the services were too short. The crowd also lingered. Indeed I could have gotten a number to speak. This Association seems to be in earnest. What they have done since has been published in *THE MONTHLY*.

I attended the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Louisville Association, and spent considerable time with the general secretary.

At Seymour, on the Jeffersonville and Indianapolis Railroad, I organized an Association. I addressed a large and promiscuous multitude at the depot, on Sabbath evening, just before Church service. By request of the congregation I consented to preach at the same place on Monday evening, at a later hour, to accommodate the working people. The next day I was prevailed upon to accompany a large excursion of Good Templars, with a view to address them on the subject of temperance. Spent several days at Indianapolis, preparing for a trip through the north-eastern part of the State.

At Michigan City, on Lake Michigan, the first point in my projected trip, I made the acquaintance of some very earnest Christian men, who were ever ready to enter into any combination that would truly advance the Master's kingdom. No Association had ever existed there. At a called meeting I explained the nature and object of our Association, when it was immediately resolved to begin the work of organization.

On the same day I had an appointment with the Germans to form a Yünglings Verein, in which I was successful. That was a day of toil for me. I started two Associations, spoke seven times, and was fatigued also with much walking.

Michigan City is the site of the North Indiana Penitentiary, and is also a shipping point. Hence it affords a good field for Association work.

Thence I went to Laporte, where an Association once existed and had failed under rather peculiar circumstances. This fact stood in the way of reorganization. It being in the hot season, also, some of the ministers were absent and others were about to go. Instead of holding a meeting at once, I called upon representative members in all the churches and had them to commit themselves to hold a meeting at the earliest possible time. I specified some things that they could do, and suggested the form of organization that they would most probably require. I never received a report from them.

At South Bend there seemed to be a manifest desire to form an Association. A meeting was called and an organization began.

Thence I went to Fort Wayne, where our Association had both friends and foes. Being a large manufacturing town, it afforded a rich harvest to Association labor. I canvassed the City thoroughly, hunted out from every quarter its choice men. A meeting was held and an Association unanimously agreed upon. Another meeting was appointed to adopt a Constitution, which I stayed over to attend. Everything was satisfactorily arranged. During my stay in Fort Wayne I also secured the formation of a Yüngling's Verein in a Reform Church. The Society had existed for some years, as an Aid Society, but as the object for which it was organized no longer existed, I had them to change its character to that of a Y. M. C. A. At Fort Wayne I received orders from Mr. Brainerd to report to Mr. A. F. Gibbens, Cor. Mem. for West Va. I started forthwith, passed through Indianapolis, Cincinnati and Columbus, Ohio, and entered West Va. at Wheeling, where a Committee welcomed me and furnished me with a printed circular, which they had sent to almost every town in the State. This facilitated my work very much, as I was properly advertised in every town as soon as I made myself known. The next day after my arrival in Wheeling I commenced the canvass of the State.

At Wellsburg, Moundsville, Fairmount, Grafton, Clarksburg and Point Pleasant, I organized new Associations. At Morgantown I found an organization in the Methodist Church, but no general Association in the town, or in the State University located there. I deemed it unadvisable to start a general organization in town, but obtained permission of the Faculty of the University to lay the matter before the students. An appointed meeting was well attended by the students, and after short addresses by several of the Professors and myself, a resolution prevailed to form an Association. This was the first organized religious effort in that University, which had an existence of four years and had then over one hundred students.

I visited and advised with the officers and members of the Wheeling, Charleston and Malden Associations, and addressed a very large meeting, held under the auspices of the Parkersburg Association. I also visited Martinsburg, West Va., Frostburg and Cumberland, Md., and Winchester, Va., but circumstances were unfavorable, and I did not attempt to organize.

The West Virginia Convention of Associations, assembled according to appointment, in the early part of December. Its business sessions lasted two days, Friday and Saturday, and many of the delegates remained over Sabbath. Daily prayer-meetings had been held for a week by the Clarksburg Association previous to the assembling of the Convention in that place. The delegation was not so large as was expected, but the interest was much greater. All the delegates entered warmly into the business matters and discussions of the Convention; and the evening meetings were thronged by the citizens. Especially was this the case with the last meeting on Sabbath evening in the South Methodist Church. All denominations were there, Episcopalians, Baptists, Presbyterians, Lutherans, North and South Methodists. One question, personal consecration, absorbed all attention. For nearly three hours, young men who were unable to get seats, stood in crowds near the door and listened with intense interest. Old men and women, and even children, were present to hear. The meeting commenced with parents asking prayers for their children, sisters for their brothers, and wives for their husbands. Christian men went from that meeting asking what they should do to live nearer Christ.

While making arrangements for a partial canvass of the South, I was invited by the Committee to spend a week or two in New York City to study

the Associations in that vicinity, and to compare views with the members of the Executive Committee, that I might be better qualified to labor in the field assigned me.

Accordingly, I spent two weeks in and about New York City, including the holidays. I think that my time there was well employed. During any stay in New York, it was agreed upon by the Committee that I should visit the most important cities and towns of the South, as well as institutions of learning.

Returned to Baltimore and there marked out my southern route. Every kindness was shown me by the Baltimore brethren. I took part in their meetings and addressed a public temperance meeting under the auspices of the Association. At Washington, I obtained from Mr. Hall (who, with Mr. Lee, had canvassed the South), all the information he could give in reference to the Southern field.

In company with Mr. Beadle, Corresponding Member for Va., I went to Alexandria, Va. Was introduced to the officers and many of the members of the Association. The President, Mr. Hill, loses no opportunities to advance the interests of the Association. Religious meetings in neglected districts, night schools for poor boys and young men, a daily prayer-meeting which has been kept up for sixteen years by one man, Entwisle, and a Sabbath afternoon prayer meeting which is largely attended by the young people of the city, constituted the main features of the Association work.

The Association has in a great measure removed denominational jealousies, and a more cordial charity exists now among the Christians of Alexandria than ever before. It was proposed to commence a building fund at their anniversary meeting.

The Charlottesville Association was no longer in existence, but the Association in Virginia University, located there, was in a very healthy condition. From Mr. Harrison, its President, I learned its chief characteristics. I was unable to advise any change except in the test of active membership, which should be higher. They were about to change the name of the Association, thinking that because it was in an institution of learning it would not be recognized by town and city Associations. I soon removed that impression, which will do away with the resolution to change the name of the Association.

The Association has ninety-six members; is well organized, does a great amount of Christian work outside of the institution, maintains fourteen prayer-meetings weekly, and has a reading-room. Its President is anxious to have a similar society in every institution of learning in the South, and especially in Virginia. I spoke to him of Michigan and Cornell Universities, of Olivet College, Olivet, Mich., and Pennsylvania College, Gettysburg, Pa. Told him that they were deeply interested in the Association work in institutions of learning, and would be glad to hear from him at any time.

Took the train for Lynchburg, a large, though somewhat dilapidated town. Its position and commerce are such, however, as to insure growth.

It has an Association with a good list of members, a fine reading-room on the first floor in a convenient locality, but the room is closed up too much of the time, and there is great inactivity among the members. Nothing is undertaken but lectures. I spoke to the president, an eminent Christian minister, of night schools like those in Alexandria, of a gymnasium, of a Bible class, etc., but he said there was a want of co-operation.

Went next to Salem, the seat of Roanoke College, in which there was an active Association, with the true test of active membership, but with a less effect-

ive organization than that in the University of Virginia. I addressed the Association at some length, and my visit was very highly appreciated. Thence I went to Lexington, and visited the Associations in Washington and Lee University, and in the Virginia Military Institute. In the former the Association numbered about sixty members out of three hundred and fifty students. It had under advisement the adoption of the evangelical test of active membership. They sought my advice. I addressed them on the true character of our Association, and showed them that none but evangelical Christians could consistently manage them. All present favored the true test.

In the latter the Association numbered forty members out of three hundred and fifty cadets. They were completely confined to the Institute by military regulation. They maintain a daily prayer-meeting, which the whole membership punctually attends. This meeting can never exceed a half an hour in length, on account of the regulations of the school, except perhaps on Sabbath. In both of these institutions they did all they could to make me comfortable.

The Richmond Association keeps open a fine reading-room and library, also provides lectures; but are lacking in religious work and meetings. Its President and Board of Directors are estimable Christian gentlemen, and are anxious to do all they can, but are not as well supported as they should be. I advised them to commence a building fund, start a gymnasium, night schools for young men, and begin some kind of religious work—daily prayer-meetings, Bible class, or street service in the proper season. All that I had to say was listened to with marked attention. They thanked me cordially for my visit.

In Norfolk the Association languishes, not for want of money, or good working material, but for want of a man to give his whole attention to it. Accordingly, I advised them to secure a General Secretary, who would be soul and spirit to the institution, as a minister would be to a church. This the Board of Directors informally agreed to do. I also advised them to raise a building fund, if they could not commence with more than one dollar. I left them hopeful.

In Raleigh, North Carolina, the Association had become a relief society, and was doing a very good work of that kind. A meeting of the Association was called to listen to any suggestions I had to offer. After addressing them for some time, it was determined to undertake the legitimate work of a Young Men's Christian Association. At the same meeting Rev. H. T. Hudson was selected as a suitable man to act as temporary Corresponding Member for North Carolina, whose name I sent to the Committee in New York.

Went to Fayetteville and appointed a meeting, but the weather was so inclement that but few came out. I described the Association and its work to these few, gave them all necessary papers to guide them, and afterwards framed up a Constitution and sent it to them. Whether they have done anything or not, I don't know.

At Wilmington, N. C., I found many friends to the Association cause. Held a meeting, and it was at once determined to organize. I don't know that I ever had better material in any preliminary meeting. Since that time I learned that they have perfected the organization. There is also a German Young Men's Christian Association connected with the German Lutheran Church, whose pastor is a strong friend of our cause, and has also identified himself with the English Association just organized.

In Columbia, S. C., I visited the Association, and found it in a rather low condition. In hunting up the officers I met our dear brother Capt. Chichester,

who was attending the Presbyterian Theological Seminary at that place. I need not tell you that he made me welcome. I spent about two hours with the Board of Directors. They went home satisfied that something could yet be done. I also met with the Colored Association, and urged them to be faithful to their religious duties. Told them that they should not allow young men to grow up in ignorance and idleness, and that a true Christian restraint thrown around the young men would benefit their race infinitely more than the coveted political influence so much sought after.

The Charleston Association had just been reorganized, but the officers were not yet installed. I spent several days with them, and had a long conversation with the President elect, Hon. C. G. Memminger, who was anxious to know how to make the Association effective in interesting young men. I offered him a great many suggestions, but the chief one was to secure a good General Secretary, who would be soul and spirit to the organization. He thanked me for my suggestions and requested me to commit them to paper, which I did.

I hunted up Mr. H. W. Thomas, President of the Colored Association in Charleston, and Chairman of the State Executive Committee of Colored Associations. He is a very interesting and humble man. His heart is thoroughly in the work. He regrets the undue influence of politics upon the young men of his own race, and the corresponding neglect of religion. I had a long conversation with him, and suggested many things, which he thought could be carried out by his Associations.

Went to Augusta, Ga., and soon discovered that an Association was a desirable institution there. I made a thorough canvass, called a meeting and addressed them at length, when it was forthwith agreed upon to enter into an organization, which was afterwards perfected, as I learned from the columns of an Augusta paper.

The name of Mr. Jas. H. Cranston was selected at a subsequent meeting as a proper person to act as temporary Corresponding Member for Georgia. At Macon I found an Association recently started, with good rooms, a large membership, and a paid librarian, but had no constitution. They were corresponding for sample constitutions. I furnished them the required papers, and wrote out a long list of suggestions for consideration at their next meeting. Had very pleasant interviews with the President and Librarian. The Association in Jacksonville, Fla., had just been organized, and were preparing to do a good work. Their field of labor was not so large, but peculiar. Jacksonville is a winter resort for invalids. Hence there will be many opportunities to make the religion of Jesus effective.

At Selma, Ala., I enjoyed a feast of fat things. The Spirit of the Lord was moving the hearts of that community when I was there. The Association has a true Christian life, and almost all the young men are identified with it. I have not space to express the pleasure I experienced in my visit to Selma.

Mr. H. L. McKee, of the Selma Association was chosen as a suitable person to act as Corresponding Member for Ala.

In New Orleans I was warmly welcomed. The Association has an excellent reading-room in a convenient place, and has an uncommonly large selection of papers and periodicals. They have a hard field, are doing a good work now, and propose to do much more when their arrangements are perfected. In Savannah and Atlanta, Ga., Montgomery and Mobile, Ala., Associations can be organized and maintained, but considerable time must be used in starting them, and proper persons selected to manage them.

I did not go to Texas, as there was no one in New Orleans when I was there to give me reduction of fare. Also, in the opinion of Mr. Nelson, Corresponding Member for Louisiana, it would have consumed a long time unprofitably just at that time; hence I took passage for St. Louis. On Sabbath I preached both morning and evening to the passengers.

Returned Southward by way of St. Louis. The Association there no longer existed. Found a band of men who did not claim to be the Association proper, although they aim to be such as soon as possible. They now hold a Saturday evening prayer-meeting, and propose to visit weekly the charitable and reformatory institutions of the city, and maintain street preaching. I visited these men and encouraged them all I could.

Went thence to New Albany, Ind. Found them nicely situated, free of debt, and working faithfully.

The Louisville Association have given up their reading-room, and maintain only their stated meetings. As Associations have been formed in the various denominations, the general Association has been crippled thereby. At the same time it is proposed to treat these new organizations with respect, and urge them to assist in the work of saving young men, as well as to bear the name, Young Men's Christian Association. The German Association in Louisville is successful. They have just entered into a fine suit of rooms in the New Market-house, corner of Jackson and Market Streets. They have a choice library from Germany. They will not burden themselves with a debt for anything, nor take hold of anything opposed to Evangelical Christianity.

Went to Bowling Green, Ky. Held a public meeting with a view to an Association. Addresses were made, a temporary organization effected, and a committee appointed to prepare papers for permanent organization. At Clarksville, Tenn., the Association has a convenient reading room; but there is great need of activity among its members. Had a long interview with the president and others of the society, who assured me that they would do all they could to place it on a working basis. I visited Stewart College in Clarksville, and interested the Faculty in forming an Association in that institution, which they intend to do as soon as practicable. At Nashville, there is no general Association. I consulted with men who were identified with the Association before and after the war. I did not attempt an organization. Thence I went to Huntsville, Ala., where I easily succeeded in forming an Association. In fact, such steps had been taken before I went there that the young men were prepared to act at once. A liberal Christian spirit pervades the community.

In all my travels I have enjoyed the kindest Christian treatment, and especially in the South have I received all the attention and sympathy that my mission could demand. I received letters of recommendation from Mr. Bergen of Baltimore, Mr. Beadle of Alexandria, Mr. Harrison of the University of Virginia; Rev. Dr. Bittle, president of Roanoke College; Gen. G. W. C. Lee, president Washington and Lee College; Captain Chichester, and Mr. Lowndes, president Colored Association, Columbia, S. C.; Major Hardie, of Selma, Ala.; and Mr. Wheat, of Louisville, Ky.

In many places, the names of Messrs. Lee and Hall are remembered with great respect. Of all public conveyances, but two railroads refused me reduction of fare when I applied to the proper officials.

As I began my year's labor with prayer, so will I close it. May the Lord verify his promise: "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth;

it shall not return unto me void ; but it shall accomplish that which I please and it shall prosper *in the thing* whereto I sent it."

ROBERT WEIDENSALL,
Ag't Y. M. C. A.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT.

After sending my report from Huntsville, Ala., to the Executive Committee I visited fifteen other places. I organized two new Associations—one in East Tenn. Wesley University, at Athens, and the other in East Tenn. State University at Knoxville. I experienced no difficulty in gaining access to the students of these institutions through their respective faculties.

Spent several days with the Association at Bristol, Tenn., and addressed a public meeting held under its auspices.

Stopped at Emory and Henry College, Va., on the Atlantic, Mississippi & Ohio R.R. Found there a large Association numbering ninety members. They carry on mission work outside of the college, maintain a bible-class and daily prayer-meeting, and have opened a reading room. I addressed all the students for a short time, after which I had a special interview with the members of the Association.

They adopted the Portland test of active membership to entitle them to representation in the National Conventions.*

Christianburg, Va., a small town of 600 inhabitants, has a good Association which keeps open a reading-room in the evenings, and maintains a very fine Bible-class. Dr. Cox, its President, regretted very much that the closing up of his school session would prevent his attendance at the Convention. Notwithstanding that, the Association will be represented.

I revisited Roanoke College, Salem, Va. Learned from the President of the Association, Mr. D. B. Floyd, the gratifying intelligence that there had been a revival in the college since my first visit, that the Association had doubled its membership, and that its Corresponding Secretary, Professor J. B. Drehar, had determined to study for the ministry.

Almost without exception, the Southern Associations desired to be represented in the Lowell Convention, and if we do not see them so represented, let it not be attributed to their want of disposition to affiliate with us, but to their want of means or to their previous and unavoidable engagements.

ROBERT WEIDENSALL,
Agent Y. M. C. A.

* There were present in the Lowell Convention five members of this Association, two as Delegates and three as visitors.

REPORT OF THE TOUR OF MR. MORSE.

NEW YORK, *May 1st, 1872.*

This tour, undertaken at the request and carried out according to the instructions of the Executive Committee, was begun the 7th of last December, and terminated the 23d of April, 1872. Fifty-six places were visited in Connecticut, Rhode Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Maine. In forty-one of these Associations were found at work, while delegates from eighteen others, who were addressed at various meetings, increase the number of this active class, reached by the tour, to fifty-nine. In four places the society was languishing, and in ten it had ceased to exist. In one place—Willimantic, Conn.—no Association had ever been formed.

It is interesting to notice that the fifty-nine *Associations at work* are located—
Fifteen in cities, viz.:

Connecticut : New London, New Haven, Bridgeport, and Meriden.

Rhode Island : Providence.

Maine : Portland, Lewiston, Auburn, Bath, Rockland, Augusta, and Biddeford.

Nova Scotia : Halifax and Yarmouth.

New Brunswick : St. John.

Sixteen in large towns, viz.:

Connecticut : Mystic, Putnam, and Waterbury.

Rhode Island : Bristol and Westerly.

Maine : Winthrop, Hallowell, Gardiner, and Bridgeton.

Nova Scotia : Pictou, New Glasgow, Westville, Amherst, Truro, Dartmouth, and Windsor.

Twenty-seven in small towns, viz.:

Connecticut : Goshen.

Nova Scotia : Antigonish, Tatamagouche, Springville, River John, Sunnybrae, Scotsburn, Londonderry, and twenty others enumerated in the accompanying table.

Of the ten Associations that have died—

Six were in cities, viz.:

Connecticut : Hartford, Norwich, and Middletown.

Rhode Island : Pawtucket and Woonsocket.

Maine : Bangor.

Four were in large towns, viz.:

Connecticut : Danielsonville and Stonington.

Maine : Skowhegan and Mechanic Falls.

In Stonington, Conn., the Association has lately been re-organized.

The Associations at work are not all equally active and prosperous. Many local obstacles have been encountered, but prayerful faith in the cause, the practical maintenance of the society, and the prospect of more intercourse with their brethren and of larger experience in the work, combine to give promise of growing usefulness.

As we look more closely into the condition of the seventy-three Associations visited, the practical question arises :

What has contributed to the success of the successful, to the feebleness of the feeble, and to the failure of those that have ceased to exist?

The results of the tour will perhaps be most serviceably presented in the form of an answer to these fundamental inquiries.

1.—*Among the causes contributing to success were:*

1. *An awakened prayerful spirit of individual activity*, generally on the part of a few members. "Surely the Lord is in this place," dwelling in the hearts of these brethren, was the sentiment suggested wherever progressive work was being carried on. A delightful spirit of Christian concord and unity among members of the various Churches formed always a part of this blessing. In New London, Goshen and Waterbury, Conn.; in Providence and Bristol, R. I.; in St. John, N. B.; in Halifax and Pictou, N. S.; in Winthrop, Bridgeton and Portland, Me., as well as some other places, it was in itself a benediction to breathe the atmosphere of Christian unity and activity, and to feel that spiritual glow which comes with brotherly fellowship in the work for Christ.

2. As a second symptom of success I would name: *The activity of intelligent Christian laymen*, willing to bear the responsibility of the work and *with faith and zeal enough to carry it in the face of obstacles*. The story of difficulties, local and general, of want of sympathy and of other trials, was recounted everywhere. But this overcoming power or faith was not equally strong in all cases. The fidelity of the laity as officers and members is invariably the earnest of encouraging progress.

3. Another guarantee of success was the choice of a field of labor, inviting *undenominational effort by Christian laymen*. Opportunity for this work is found not only among young men, but in many neighborhoods destitute of religious services. In Mystic, New London and Waterbury, Conn., at Winthrop, Portland and Auburn, Me., throughout Pictou County, N. S., and in many other places our members have laid hold discriminatingly of this peculiar work. The result abundantly shows that such wise selection of the field for effort is a guarantee of fruitful labor. In Lewiston, Maine, a very appropriate field of this sort has been discovered and occupied in the populous boarding houses, where the operatives of the mills are accommodated. These five or six immense houses are built by the corporations owning the mills. In each one every Monday evening our members in Lewiston hold a prayer-meeting. All are invited to the reading-room and the social and other meetings at the hall of the Association. This is manifestly and confessedly a field where undenominational effort is most appropriate. Certainly, in every manufacturing city where operatives are lodged in this manner, the organization of an Association would seem to be desirable. Another source of help is as follows:

4. *The hearty sympathy of some—rarely of all—of the Churches and Ministers*. The well known sanction by them of the Society and its work gives strength, and the effect of this upon the usefulness of the Association is very perceptible.

5. *Intercourse among neighboring Associations*, together with an occasional *tour of visitation by brethren well informed about the work*. The importance and benefit of such intercommunication are best illustrated in the Province of Nova Scotia. In traveling among the thirty Associations of the small county of Pictou, I found that the prosperity of each Society was in direct proportion to the amount of intercourse with neighboring brethren which they had kept up and enjoyed. Said one of the devoted men of this county: "*In order to get a blessing at home we find we must go abroad.*" This is a motto worthy to be

written over the door of every Young Men's Christian Association. Specially is such intervisitation of importance in more sparsely populated districts, where a new face and the sound of new voices in Christian work or conference is a means of grace. Probably no other district on the Continent of the size of Pictou County (845 square miles) has so large a number (33) of Associations in small towns. The largest place in the county has only about 3,000 inhabitants. The most vigorous Association—the one in the town of Pictou—is most active in keeping up intercourse with neighboring societies. Since my tour among them these Associations have organized to promote a systematic intervisitation. A Central Committee has been appointed to supervise the work, and there is fair promise of good results.

In Nova Scotia they are also reaping the benefits of *occasional visits on tours by brethren well informed about the work*. Effort in this direction was begun five years ago by Mr. J. S. Maclean, of Halifax, when there was only one Association in the Province. He has since been seconded in the work of visiting various places, to advocate and promote the cause by Messrs. J. B. Morrow, W. J. Roche and other brethren, till now sixty Associations exist in Nova Scotia, and the time has perhaps come for the Provincial Convention to take up and carry on this work systematically, so that every society may share equally in the benefit received. I venture to suggest this as a topic for discussion by the delegates to the Provincial Convention in Halifax next August.

6. The sixth feature of the more prosperous Associations visited, was the employment in the cities of *an officer or General Secretary to devote his time to the study, organization and prosecution of the work*. He did not always bear the name of the office (General Secretary), adopted at the meeting of the Secretaries, held during the Washington Convention, in May, 1871. His position as member *ex officio* of the Board of Directors and of every working committee of the Association, was in no case well defined. But in Providence and Westerly, R. I., in St. John, N. B., and Halifax and Pictou, N. S., an attempt is being made to supply this want of every Association in a large town or city. In due time this office will become the right hand of the directors and leading Christian laymen of these Associations in enlisting more volunteers, organizing committees, looking after the finances, making the rooms attractive, selecting agencies adapted to the locality, and in studying to make the work of the society aggressive in every department.

In Bridgeport, Conn., since my visit, a General Secretary has been secured. At New Haven, New London and Meriden, Conn., and at Portland, Me., our societies are ripe for the appointment and the work of such an officer. Maine has not a single General Secretary. The securing of a competent person in Portland would be a blessing to the State as well as to that city.

All the encouraging features in the work above enumerated never appeared in any single Association. In every place there was room for improvement, based on a better knowledge of the work in other localities.

II.—Having mentioned the symptoms of success, let us notice now what has contributed to *feebleness* in not a few of the Associations, and to the failure of the Society in ten of the places visited. The causes of this feebleness were chiefly local, and due to perceptible mistakes.

1. Religious feeling throughout the community is at a low ebb. This was almost invariably the confession and lament heard where little or no progress was being made. Generally in these places there was abundant testimony to the good wrought in the past by the Association. This was accompanied by a

singular assurance, repeated over and over again in different places, to the effect that in this time of religious indifference no meeting for Christian conference was so glowing and profitable as the Association meeting, even in its present low estate.

2. Discouragement was sometimes owing to a forgetfulness of the fact that *the main reliance for active work is not the clergy but the laity*. Cordial sympathy and occasional words of encouragement from ministers have very often been helpful. In some cases even contributions from pastors to the Building Fund have been made and gratefully welcomed; but active, laborious co-operation from them in the work is rarely if ever practicable. The tendency in the economy of the Churches has been to overburden the clergy and to delegate to them much of what laymen should perform.

As a matter of fact, our active Associations the Continent over derive their working force almost exclusively from the laity; yet in some cases I have found the brethren disheartened by a failure to enlist the activities of the clergy. The remedy is evidently a development of greater self-dependence in Christian work among the laymen, and a consciousness of their responsibility in this department. Such an advance, as scores of cases attest, increases their usefulness and activity in the Church as well as in the Association. They became more than ever sympathetic co-laborers with the ministry in promoting the cause of Christ.

3. *Lack of intercourse with neighboring Associations* and ignorance of the experience gained in other localities have often contributed to a decline which words of encouragement and counsel from neighboring societies would have arrested. Indeed, in some cases it seemed a marvel that the Association had survived in its isolation.

4. *A withdrawal from meetings for aggressive Christian work into the home prayer meeting at the rooms* very frequently marks the decline of Associations in towns, large and small. Some of the brethren have grown weary or left the place. Only one meeting can well be sustained, and it is assumed that this should of course be the home meeting for conference and prayer rather than a neighborhood meeting for work as well as prayer. This meeting, indeed, generally proves to be a blessing to the members who attend. Often I was told, that even after it ceased to be aggressive, it was the religious meeting which the brethren most enjoyed. But the mistake was none the less fatal. Prayer in work and work with prayer are the life of the Society. For the two, united one and indissoluble, the Association exists. To abandon aggressive work is to invite decline and dissolution.

5. In larger cities the cause of much discouragement, and sometimes of decline and failure, is *sole dependence on volunteer effort*, or the lack of a General Secretary. As before mentioned in this report, such an officer is needed to study and promote the work of the Association, and to enlist a larger number of volunteers than are likely to come without being sought for. Experience is every year teaching our societies and members how indispensable this officer is to the highest usefulness of the Young Men's Christian Association.

6. "*Died of financial mismanagement*," is the epitaph of some of our societies. Spending money before it has been raised has too often occasioned burdensome and crushing debt. Sometimes, moreover, the money is secured, but injudiciously expended, and the confidence of the Christian community is lost. The plan of raising money by securing subscriptions lasting ten years, has been very successfully carried out in Plantsville, Ct., and has met with favor in many places

I have suggested it to our members. The features of the plan have been detailed in the *Association Monthly*, and it will not be necessary to dwell on them in this Report.

I have attempted to state what has contributed to the success of the Associations visited, and what has occasioned in some instances decline and failure. This instructive tour among more than seventy Associations, and the intercourse enjoyed with as many as five hundred and fifty of our members, have only deepened the convictions of the importance and value of our societies. Like all good enterprises that struggle through trial and experiment toward their final form of usefulness, the Association has met with trouble and occasional disaster. But never before have we numbered so many well established, vigorous societies, and never before did they give fairer promise of usefulness, in promoting the cause of Christ and the advancement of his blessed kingdom in the earth.

RICHARD C. MORSE.

STATE.	Time Occupied.	No. of Places visited.	No. of Persons called on.	At Work.	Dying.	Dead.	Never Organized.	At work, and reported by Delegates at the 21 meetings held.
Connecticut.....	Dec. 7, 71-Jan. 16, '73	15	146	New London, Mystic, Putnam, Bridgeport, New Haven, Waterbury, Meriden, Goshen, Providence, Bristol, Westerly, Auburn, Windsor, Hallowell, Bangor, Biddeford.	11 Rockville.	5 { Norwob, Danabonville, Middletown, Stonington.	11 Williamantic.	18 { Cape John, Charlottesville, Sunnybrook, Hopewell, Rocklin, Scotch Hill, Albion Mines, Barnes Riv., Rogers Hill, Water Hill, Union Hill, Fauls Hall, Salem, Mt. Thor, Brooklin, 6 Mile Brook, Folly Brook, Fortapique.
Rhode Island....	Jan. 17-21, 1873.	5	50			2 { Pawtucket, Woonsocket.		
Maine.....	Mar. 24-Apr. 22, '73	17	166		3 { Brunswick, Richmond, Waterville.	3 { Snowbegan, Bangor, Mechanic Falls.		
PROVINCE. Nova Scotia.....	Feb. 4-Mar. 9, '73.	17	151	Halifax, Pictou, River John, Springville, Westville, New Glasgow, Scoburn, Salisbury, Lyons Brook, Antigonish, Tatamagouche, Amherst, Londonderry, Truro, Dartmouth, Windsor, Yarmouth, 2 { St. John, Central Norton.				
New Brunswick [The snow block ade prevented vis- itation.]	Mar. 10-20, 1873.	2	30					
Dec. 7, 1871 to April 22, 1873.....		56	543	59	4	10	1	18

N.B.—PICTON COUNTY.

Whole number of Associations visited or inquired for: 73; whole number of persons converted with: 543.
During the months (from December to April last), I visited 56 places, calling on 543 persons in Connecticut, Rhode Island, Maine, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Associations at work were found in 41 places, while delegates from 18 others increase the number of this class to 59. In four places the Association was languishing, and in ten had ceased to exist. In Williamantic, Conn., no Association had ever been formed.

NOVA SCOTIA.

The Associations in the Maritime Provinces of British America held a Convention in St. John, N. B., in July last, and from that gathering the Delegates returned to their several Associations, fired with new zeal.

During the Fall and Winter, Messrs. Morrow, Maclean and other members of the Halifax Association, visited the several Associations throughout Nova Scotia, and resulted in a new manifestation of energy and encouragement to those who would labor for Christ.

The day for united prayer for Associations and young men, at the request of your Executive Committee, was generally observed throughout the Province, and corresponding results followed.

The most effectual human agency in reviving our cause was the visit of Brother Morse, during the past Winter. Brother Morse's energetic labors throughout the Province gave new life to the cause by his eloquent and earnest addresses; but his very presence among us gave the provincial brethren to feel that they were in sympathy with the Christian laborers in the United States, and united prayers ascended for both, which we trust were abundantly answered.

Several new Associations are reported in the return; several of the old have arrangements in progress for building. And the Fifth Convention of Associations in the Maritime Provinces, will be held in Halifax, in September next.

In Halifax the work is prosecuted with as much vigor as ever; a piece of ground has been purchased for building, and about fifteen thousand dollars have been subscribed to prosecute the undertaking. The Mission Church is always crowded on the Sabbath afternoon with a congregation principally composed of young men; the meeting is held under the auspices of the Association.

We are in hopes of greater things yet for Halifax and the Province generally, from the convention at Lowell, and the convention for the Maritime Provinces to be held in September.

JAMES FARQUHAR,

Cor. Member from Nova Scotia.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

MY DEAR BROTHER :—

I received your circular of the 26th. There has been but one Association organized in this Province during the past year, and one has ceased to exist, the first, St. Stephens, the latter, Moncton. The list of Associations in this Province is as follows:

Saint John, Frederickton, Saint Stephens, Saint Andrews, Central Norton, Upper Norton, Chatham, Bathurst, Richibucto, Carleton.

The Frederickton Association was reorganized during the past winter and has been specially active in Christian work. The St. Stephens Association had a course of lectures during the winter and promises to do a good work among the young people in that town. Central Norton, Upper Norton, Bathurst and Chatham, have maintained prayer-meetings steadily, and have had occasional lectures and other literary entertainments. In Carleton, St. Andrews and Richibucto the work has not been carried on with much vigor. It is somewhat

difficult to keep up a correspondence with the country Associations, as the Secretaries are anything but prompt as a general thing in replying to my letters. However, there are exceptions, and Central Norton and Frederickton are especially active in the good work.

Our own Association is enjoying a very great amount of prosperity, hundreds are unable to find admittance to our Sabbath evening prayer-meetings, our room being crowded to excess. Great interest is manifested; many young people during the past year have been led to Jesus. Our social and weekly prayer-meetings are very well attended. Our cottage prayer-meetings and visiting, tract distributing, relief and other Christian work is faithfully and systematically carried on. In reviewing the past, there is both great cause for deep gratitude to God, and for heartfelt humiliation.

Where Associations have been formed and worked properly in our Provinces, an impression for good has always been made. With God's blessing we have made the influence of our Association to be felt in many ways, both in direct Christian work and in the cause of Temperance.

I have no suggestions of a special character to offer. I hope when the Convention does meet that God's blessed Spirit may be present in its midst. I hope a real spirit of brotherly love may be manifested, and that the humblest brother will receive the kindest welcome from the more prominent and influential. Give the brethren a chance to make acquaintance with each other, and to exchange views regarding the work.

I have attended to Brother Butterick's circular, and made the arrangements for travel in our Province he required.

With kind regards, yours in Christian fellowship,

WILLIAM WELSH,

President Young Men's Christian Association.

The architect is preparing the plans of our building, and it will be commenced before the end of this month.

Our rooms are at present and have been well patronized by our young men, and is very cheerful.

There is an active Young Women's Christian Association in our city which has done and is still doing a very good work. Has the following question ever been discussed: "What kinds of amusements are admissible in Young Men's Christian Associations?"

W. W.

ONTARIO.

The great obstacle to the advancement of the work within our bounds, has hitherto been the want of co-operation between existing Associations, with a view to the establishment of new organizations, the stirring up of those that are "ready to perish for lack of knowledge," and the resurrection of those already dead. This subject was brought prominently before the members of the Fourth Annual Convention of the Association of Ontario and Quebec, held at St. Catharines in August last, and attended by 144 delegates from 40 localities. The sum of \$500 was then raised to enable the Ontario Executive to organize a scheme of thorough systematic visitation, calling in the aid of delegates from existing Associations as opportunities of usefulness arose. A correspondence was opened in January last with Brother K. A. Burnell, in the hope of securing his services for a two months' campaign, but private engagements prevented

his presence amongst us for more than a hurried visit to Hamilton and St. Catharines on his way to Massachusetts, and the work accordingly devolved upon ourselves.

Though much could not be accomplished before the advent of the busy season of Spring, yet I am happy to be able to report some progress, and I trust that under the Divine blessing real good has been accomplished. Six new and vigorous Associations have been organized within the past five months, and one Association, formed just at the point of death, has been quickened into new life, has removed into new quarters, and its members have begun to work. An excellent Association, now numbering 111 members, was organized by one of our delegations about a year ago, but was not included in last year's returns. Twelve delegates have paid thirty-two visits to twenty-two localities, and an extensive correspondence has been commenced, and is still steadily maintained with numerous other localities, where I hope soon to have the pleasure of reporting the formation of other new Associations.

I have also ascertained that during the past few years, *ten* Associations, which formerly had an existence in Ontario, have ceased to be numbered among the living. Of these eight were in small towns and villages, where no fraternal advice or encouragement were ever extended towards them by older and more experienced Associations, otherwise they might now have been influential for good throughout their several localities. Two others were in large cities, where Christian Associations gradually grew up around them, and absorbed into their narrower sphere the few active members who might have kept them alive. This cause of failure is deeply to be regretted, as upon the broad platform of the General Association all may work for the salvation of that large and important class of our young men who are as yet outside the pale of Church influence, and who will never be reached by mere denominational effort.

The Toronto brethren were last year the pioneers in Association work at Camp Niagara, where several battalions of Canadian Volunteer Militia were assembled for annual drill, and the Committee have this year arranged for a more extensive prosecution of the work in two separate districts, where many thousands of our young men will again be met "under canvass" and exposed to the varied temptations of camp life. With the hearty co-operation of the military authorities, large Y. M. C. A. tents will be pitched, where solid reading matter, with writing materials, and, if possible, also gymnastic apparatus will be provided, and ample accommodation afforded for day and evening meetings and Sabbath services, in the latter of which the aid of the military bands will assist the musical portion of the exercises. The Y. M. C. A.'s of Bellville, Toronto, Hamilton and St. Catharines, and other neighboring places, have undertaken to send some of the most active members to assist in this important work, and it is hoped that our Association cause will be thus prominently brought before many young men who might not otherwise be led within the sphere of its influence. May the blessing of our Heavenly Father crown these our humble efforts for the advancement of His kingdom and glory on the earth.

All which is respectfully submitted,

GEORGE A. YOUNG,

Cor. Member for Ontario.

HAMILTON, 25th May, 1872.

REMARKS.

All of these Associations require connection with our evangelical churches as the qualification for active membership, with two exceptions, viz.

BRANTFORD—Constitution says: "Members of evangelical churches and other professing Christians, may become active members, etc. Active members only shall become eligible to office in the Board of Management."

BERLIN.—Constitution says: "The Board of Managers, on being satisfied as to the Christian character of an associate member, may recommend the Association to make him an active member. Active members only are entitled to hold office."

It was impossible to procure copies of the Constitution in time for the requirements of the Executive, and many of the smaller Associations had no printed copy to send. Nearly all were supplied, one with manuscript copies of this qualification clause, and I hope this assurance will be sufficient to entitle them to representation at Lowell, should they send delegates.

GEORGE A. YOUNG,

Corresponding Member for Ontario.

HAMILTON, 26th May, 1872.

LIST OF ASSOCIATIONS IN ONTARIO, SO FAR AS ASCERTAINED.

Ayr, Barrie.—Since reported as dead. Efforts will be made during this season to revive the cause in both these localities.

Brantford.—Rev. Geo. Bridgman, M. A., Pres.; D. R. Blackades, Cor. Sec.; one hundred and forty-six members. Lately visited by delegates when about dead; now moved to new rooms.

Brockville.—See report sent direct to New York.

Belleville.—A. J. Northrop, Pres.; W. E. Holton, Cor. Sec.; one hundred and twenty-nine members. See report sent direct to New York; an active Association.

Berlin.—Joseph Devitt, Pres.; Wm. Wing, Cor. Sec.; twenty-six members. Lately visited by delegates from Toronto and Hamilton. A small German village.

Bowmansville.—Henry O'Hara, Pres.; Paul Tresilrock, Cor. Sec.; forty members. Organized in March, 1872; a good Association.

Coburg.—Rev. John Laing, Pres.; John W. Brikle, Cor. Sec.; forty-two members. Regrets late inactivity, and is preparing for out-door effort.

Craigvale.—Lately organized, and raised eighty-five dollars at first meeting for a library. A very small village.

Fergus.—John Ironside, Pres.; Alex. Taylor, Cor. Sec.; forty members. Organized in February, 1872; great promise of success.

Guelph.—E. W. Maguire, M.D., Pres.; Wm. Anderson, Cor. Sec.; one hundred and thirty-four members. Lately visited by two delegations; held a splendid public meeting.

Galt.—Malcolm Gibb, Pres.; R. S. Wallace, Cor. Sec.; sixty-six members. An active Association; Sabbath prayer-meeting attended by three or four hundred persons.

Hamilton.—George A. Young, Pres.; John C. Bale, Cor. Sec.; two hundred and nineteen members. An *apparent* decrease in membership, as all *doubtful* names have been taken from roll.

Ingersoll.—William Harris, Pres.; A. G. Murray, Cor. Sec.; forty members. Organized in January, 1872; since burnt out in a fire which destroyed the greater part of the business portion of the town.

Wapancee.—Rev. John Scott, Pres.; A. L. Morden, Cor. Sec.; forty-four members. One year in existence; reports good progress. Lately visited by delegates.

Ottawa.—See report sent direct to New York.

Owen Sound.—J. W. Frost, B. A., S. S. B., Pres.; J. G. Smith, Cor. Sec.; forty members. Organized a few months ago; the result of St. Catherines Convention.

Oakville.—Organized two months ago, and likely to do a good work.

Paris.—William E. Adams, Pres.; J. Roberts, Cor. Sec.; fifty-five members. A glorious resurrection after two years' decease; delegates held a good meeting here.

Port Hope.—William Craig, Jr., Pres.; George Mason, Cor. Sec.; fifty-six members. See report sent direct to New York; a very active Association.

St. Catherines.—See report sent direct to New York; a very active Association.

St. Thomas.—Since reported as dead; Executive must see after them.

Toronto.—See report sent direct to New York.

Welland.—Have not replied to letters of inquiry; have probably reported direct.

Woodstock.—David White, Pres.; James T. Bain, Cor. Sec.; one hundred and eleven members. A new Association, organized in 1871 by delegation, and lately revisited (very lively).

London and Kingston have lately been visited by delegations, but as yet without prospect of revival; must hope for the future.

MAINE.

I have been unable to get a perfected list of Associations in this State that are in active operation. I should advise dropping from the list the Associations in Skowhegan, Bangor, McFalls, Saccarappa, Gorham, Saco, Paris, Farmington, Gray, Andover, Dexter, Fryeburg, Wiscasset.

The work performed by the Associations which have been active has equalled, I think, that of any previous year, and in several places they are enjoying a season of revival, resulting in a large degree from the labor which has been put forth.

I have heard of but two new Associations formed, or not before reported—one in North Berwick, and one in Rockland.

We are under deep obligation to Bro. R. C. Morse for the work performed among our Associations during the month of April. His visit has encouraged and strengthened the brethren, and will, I doubt not, result in much good to the cause. Many Associations in the smaller towns are being given up, but the work in the larger places, I think, is as encouraging as formerly.

I have the pleasure to say that Bro. George W. Garcelon, of Lewiston, was selected by our State Convention as a suitable person for Corresponding Member for Maine.

Very truly yours,

H. H. BURGESS, *Cor. Mem.*

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

I wish it was in my power to give you a full report of the condition of the Young Men's Christian Association's work in our State; but I shall be obliged to content myself with a very meagre one.

The general interest in regard to Association work in New Hampshire is, on the whole, increasing, rather than diminishing. In a few of the smaller towns the interest may lag a little just now, but in the cities and larger towns the Associations generally are strong and prosperous. The prejudice against Association work, formerly existing in some of the churches, is giving way to sympathy and cordial support, as our work is better understood, and its good fruits more clearly seen.

The Association in Manchester has never before been in so good condition. They have commodious and well-furnished rooms in Masonic Temple, their reading-room being well supplied with papers and periodicals. They now employ a young man, who gives his whole time to the work, while many of the active members are unwearied in the Master's service.

We are looking forward with interest to the Convention soon to be held in Lowell, and because it is to be so near our own State line, we hope to reap largely of its good fruits.

J. P. NEWELL,

Cor. Mem.

VERMONT.

Delay in receiving my reports for individual Associations has occasioned corresponding delay in my report, much to my (and your) regret.

The past year has not wrought material changes in the aspect of Association matters in Vermont. Although several Associations have seemed on the retrograde, yet the last spark of life not having expired, and in hope of its rekindling, we have been loth to drop them and part with them entirely; therefore, our number of Associations remains about the same.

In our Associations in the small towns, some are bravely holding on and doing good, while others, where a half dozen do all the work and pay all the bills, are becoming somewhat discouraged. We trust, however, that the way may yet be made clear how small Associations can be managed, thrive and be a great power for good.

As to our larger Associations, such as those at Burlington, St. Johnsbury, Rutland, Montpelier, Waterbury, and the like, I feel much encouraged. They are enlarging their fields of usefulness and gaining the confidence of their several committees, and thereby accomplishing much for Christ.

Our Association reports as a result of its mission in an adjoining town, the establishment by the inhabitants of a stated preaching service and a growing religious sentiment. Reading-rooms have been established in additional Associations since the last report. We were very sanguine at our last Convention of securing the services of a State missionary for the whole or a part of the year, but our best efforts were unavailing, and the cause has lagged somewhat on that account, doubtless. But please bear to the brethren a cheering note from Vermont.

L. W. HAWLEY,

Cor. Mem.

MASSACHUSETTS.

The Associations are usually in a flourishing condition. Seven new Associations have been added during the year, four have disbanded; present number, one hundred and four. One of these new Associations is composed entirely of

colored young men. Many of the Associations have been doing missionary and church work largely, to the exclusion of their legitimate work (aggressive work for the *young men*). Three Associations, which had closed their rooms, have re-organized this year, and with new officers and an addition to their treasury, have been doing effective service. Seven of the Associations have a daily prayer-meeting, twenty a tri-weekly, all a weekly prayer-meeting. A larger number than any year previous have had open-air meetings.

One Association has secured a building; ten have building funds. There have been over 1,300,000 Dublin Little Books (tracts) circulated by these Associations.

The State Convention was held at Northampton in October, and was attended by three hundred delegates, the best of results following the meetings. Four very valuable essays were presented by clergymen upon subjects which had been assigned them previously. A subscription of five hundred and eighty dollars was taken up for State work, and an Executive Committee appointed to co-operate with the Corresponding Member.

In February and March, Mr. K. A. Burnell, of Illinois, was unanimously invited to make a Christian canvass of the State, in connection with our Committee and friends whom we could induce to accompany him, spending two days in each place. He visited forty of the principal cities and towns, and in three instances the effort resulted in a revival of religion in the churches of the town. In another case \$5,000 was raised for a building, which has since been increased to \$22,000, the land purchased, and the building is about to be erected. In another place \$1,200 was raised, which has been increased to \$2,400. What we need in Massachusetts is a live church and Association man to devote himself to the general work four months at least in each year, to labor to secure a man to lead in each association, and organizing, or aiding in organizing. We believe that the Young Men's Christian Association is steadily gaining ground in Massachusetts, although several of the larger cities are as yet without a full appreciation of their real work, and its value to the churches. We are conscious that where the churches have used this as an instrumentality for gaining recruits to themselves, they have been signally successful. Of one church it was stated that their Missionary Committee had brought them from the association twenty-three young men who had become members of their church, nineteen of whom had been converted to Christ in the rooms of the Young Men's Christian Association of that city during that year. If we work, our organization shall increase; if we stand idle, we shall certainly die.

For the State.

L. P. ROWLAND,

Cor. Member.

RHODE ISLAND.

In rendering to you the Annual Report of Association work for this State I perform a pleasant duty. It is not a work that has made much noise abroad, and yet we feel it has been wrought upon a good foundation. At Montreal I was appointed the Corresponding Member for the State of Rhode Island. I had but the faintest idea of what the duties of that office were when I was told I was elected by that Convention to fill the office. But I think before I left that city, at a meeting of the Executive Committee and the Correspond-

ing Members, a sense of the magnitude of the work began to dawn upon my mind. I came home to my field of labor full of hope, and having strong faith in the work itself. My principal effort that year was directed towards organizing a State Convention. It was an entirely new feature here, and as we in this State are noted for moving slow, it required some time for the brethren to lay hold of it. The next year we held our first State Convention in this City, and one, which we shall long remember. It was productive of good, and opened the way for a second, and a third, and a fourth, the last held at Bristol, and one, which for practical results, exceeded all the rest. We were favored on that occasion, too, with the presence of the Chairman of the Executive Committee; and here let me extend to the Committee, in this public manner, our heartfelt thanks for the kind words of counsel and cheer spoken by him, which were so timely and well chosen.

As to the number of our Associations, it is small, and we have come to feel that it is hardly possible to organize these Associations in the exceeding small towns or villages with which our State is filled. But if at the centres we can have a few live Associations that are making themselves felt away out into the surrounding country, then shall we be accomplishing really the work. An Association at Providence, at Pawtucket, Westerly, and one at Bristol, comprises our list. The Pawtucket Association is not in a good working condition at present, but we still have hope for them.

I see that one of the subjects for discussion is to be upon the work of a General Secretary. I deem this to be of vital importance in much of our Association work. We have two in Rhode Island who give their whole time to this work, one at Providence and one at Westerly.

During the past winter we had a visit from our dear Brother Morse of about ten days, and while we felt his impressions of us were not altogether favorable, we can say that on our part we were glad he came and believe he did us good. He certainly has a large place in our hearts.

And now, in view of the Convention soon to assemble at Lowell and the feeling that on account of its central location to the Middle and Eastern States, large numbers will attend, we pray that the Master will preside, and that his spirit may guide and direct all its affairs, to the end that His cause may be magnified and that we should decrease. "God grant that the watchmen see eye to eye," that the world may see that love is the ruling passion, love one to another and to the perishing souls around us.

E. R. HOLDEN.

Cor. Member.

CONNECTICUT.

In the year 1867 our Corresponding Member reported eleven Young Men's Christian Associations in the State of Connecticut. In May of the same year the first State Convention was held, at which eight of these Associations were represented by delegates. This Convention was the means of calling general attention to the special work of Associations, and thus a new impetus was given to it.

In the year 1868 the Corresponding Member reported twenty-nine Associations in the State. Several of these, however, never gained strength or permanency, so that not more than twenty of the number reported survived the year.

The year following (1869) six new ones were organized, two of which still continue in active operation.

In the year 1870 the report gave thirty active Associations, although subsequent results have shown that at least a half dozen of this number had not in them the principle of vital endurance; since which time the gain and loss in the number of Associations have been about equal, so that in making a true estimate at the present time it would not be safe to rate the number of living Associations in this State over twenty-five.

The whole number of different Associations which have existed in the State, since their first organization in 1858, has been forty-three, including those which died in infancy or early childhood, also a few which came to a respectable maturity and died a violent death, caused by jealousies or sectarian bigotry. If the custom prevailed of not numbering Associations until after their first anniversary, the true progress and strength of the Association work would be more fairly stated, and the disagreeable task of burying so many dead ones would be largely obviated.

The Associations of Connecticut have seldom been fostered, but usually have been welcomed by much cold indifference, often by jealous opposition, so that when inexperienced, timid or unskillful managers are at the helm, they are wrecked in the first gale. These difficulties will lessen as the community become educated in the history and facts of the Association work; a result which will surely come in time, and the dawn of which is even now upon us.

Our last State Convention, held in October, was one of elevated tone and marked power. Only seventeen Associations were represented in it, yet its spirit gave evidence that God was leading His children on, under this banner, to conquests against the powers of darkness and victory in the name and strength of King Emmanuel. This Convention seemed more determined on aggressive movements than any previously held, not only instructing but pledging means to aid the State Executive Committee in advancing the work of the State.

The State Executive Committee accordingly convened at their earliest convenience in December, and after taking a survey of the field, put into execution a plan that seemed best calculated to promote the desired object. The Executive Committee carried out their plan as far as they were able with the limited means of three hundred dollars at their command, and were very successful in the movements made, only needing thrice the amount of funds to have made a thorough canvass, and carried out such processes as would have advantaged the State throughout. "The Secretary of the Executive Committee was employed to visit all Associations in the State, collect statistics, and give all possible encouragement to Christian workers, in establishing new Associations, and vitalizing old ones, acting in concert with country members of this Committee, and under the direction of the Chairman thereof." To this was added the holding of small mass meetings with different Associations, or what might be called system of visitations among the Associations. The reciprocal influence and encouragement thus gained was very effective and happy. These efforts even where nothing seemed to be gained in the special Associational work, aroused greater activity among Christian workers generally.

More work has been done for the State by the State Executive Committee during the present year than ever before. Efficient aid has also been received from the General Executive Committee, so that, if in the year to come these ex-

ertions are continued and properly supported, we may reasonably hope and expect a decided advance in power and strength as well as an increased number of Associations.

The Montville and the Stonington Associations have been organized during the present year, and several others have renewed activities, after a season of suspension, while those in health and vigor have enlarged their field of usefulness.

The work is the Lord's; He will prosper it; blessed be His name.

NEWTON FULLER,

Cor. Member.

NEW YORK.

The past year has not been marked by an increase in the number of our Associations, nor by any striking developments in their history; but with many of them it has been a season of steady and healthy progress toward an assured permanence, and toward the fulfilment of their true aim.

There are now fifty-three Associations on our roll. Five of them own buildings, and six others are raising building funds. The estimated value of the buildings, above all debts, together with the building funds, is \$443,500. The North Shore, Staten Island, and Poughkeepsie Associations, are just entering commodious buildings, finely adapted to their wants. Eleven other Associations have taken possession of new and improved rooms during the year: thirty-five sustain reading-rooms, and six have gymnasiums. It is also gratifying to note that eight of our Associations now employ General Secretaries, and others are debating the matter.

While many of our Associations have sustained social meetings, lectures, &c., there is a general feeling that the prayer-meeting is the chief instrumentality for us to employ, and many of these gatherings are full of interest. Few of our Associations have enjoyed marked revivals of religion, but thirteen of them report eighty-three conversions, as fruits of God's working through their instrumentality, and others speak of religious interest without enumerating results.

Our State Convention was held at Utica, Sept. 12-14, 1871, and was an earnest and practical gathering. The State Committee since that time have been unusually engaged with home duties, and have not themselves been able to do as much as the year before in visiting and encouraging Associations. But they were fortunate last summer in securing the services of Mr. George W. Leonard, of Auburn, as travelling agent, and found his perseverance and tact invaluable in this work. He has just entered upon another tour of four months.

JOHN I. PLATT,

Cor. Mem.

NEW JERSEY.

A year ago we reported thirty-two organizations, with 2,076 active and 1,046 associate members. Three are dead, and six others have been organized. We now have thirty-five Associations, with 2,958 active and 1,208 associate members.

For the year ending 1871 the various Associations had expended, independent of building funds, \$9,355; for the year ending 1872, \$17,170. Beverly had a building, as reported last year. This year we rejoice to add New Brunswick and Newark to the list of Associations having homes of their own. At Bayonne City the Association (new) have the free use of the second and third stories of a fine brick block, comprising hall, gymnasium, reading-room, and parlor. The Association at Jersey City, wrongfully reported *dead* a year ago, was only sick, and now, thanks to the Great Physician and the energy of its efficient President and his co-laborers, is again fixed upon a permanent basis, and have strong hopes to sit under their own vine and fig-tree ere another twelve-month. A new Association has been organized at Newton, the result of a revival and the efforts of H. J. Rudd (Pres.), who five years before came from Northampton, Mass. The Association at Elizabeth is an effective organization. They are taking rapid strides toward erecting a building, and have established a branch at the Port, which in usefulness promises to out-rival the parent organization.

At Montclair the brethren have had a new lease of life given them; have met Anti-Christ, and in the victory added to their influence and friends not a few.

Both Newark and New Brunswick have in their Associations realized all that the possession of a home signifies. The former have at a great bargain purchased an edifice, which, at a slight expense, will be adapted and wholly consecrated to the work. The total cost will not exceed \$60,000. In time, as God prospers them, they will add to and improve.

At New Brunswick, at a cost of \$10,000, they own their building, and have established schools and classes, and thus increased the individual and public interest, much to their own profit and usefulness.

The Orange Association also have been alive during the past year—have, beside their especial work, organized schools and classes, and already have a considerable fund for building purposes.

The brethren at Hightstown report a vigorous and effective organization. Also Plainfield, Roseville, Trenton, Hackensack, Whippany, Westfield, Beverly, Bridgeton and Boonton. The other Associations have a name and may live, but life seems to be a burthen, as they make no report thereof. On the whole, the work is cheerily advancing and growing upon and in the lives of the young men. In many places the objects and purposes of the organization are taking root, and we hope soon to reap the fruit.

The State Convention, 110 delegates, was a practical success, notwithstanding the State Executive Committee may have failed to reap all the fruits.

Christian men, if "fervent in spirit," are also "diligent in business," and can not be expected to devote the time necessary to develop the work. They may direct from more familiarity, but they need an efficient paid agent, who can execute their plans.

New Associations have been organized at Metuchin, Burlington, Elizabethport, Newton, Bayonne City, and among the Germans of Newark. This last is a new and peculiar work, and very encouraging. The Germans of Jersey City have met and are about to organize. We may also mention the organization of the Women's Christian Association of Newark, who have secured and furnished a building and are now affording homes, culture and Christian influences to many who would otherwise be homeless, or at best have cheerless accommodation.

These results of the work during the past year are encouraging to us, and we hope an incentive to others. We have not done all that might have been

accomplished, from lack of experience, but trust that the substantial interest taken in the work may grow into an enthusiasm of love and devotion to the Master.

CHARLES B. MORRIS,

Cor. Member.

PENNSYLVANIA.

The work in this State during the past year has been highly encouraging. The State is divided into seven districts. A member of the Executive Committee is chosen from each of these districts, having special supervision over the district in which he resides.

The Committee at its meeting in October, determined to hold a series of visitation meetings or local conventions—these meetings to be conducted by Rev. S. A. Taggart, State Secretary, assisted by Prof. Wm. Johnson, and each member of the Committee in his particular district. The Committee consists as follows: H. K. Porter, Chairman, Pittsburg; Gen. James A. Beaver, Bellefonte; Colonel D. E. Small, York; W. D. Mossman, Scranton; N. F. Evans, Philadelphia; James McCormick, Jr., Harrisburg; Maj. E. W. Matthews, Foxburg.

The first series of meetings were held during December and January. The Committee at its meeting at Harrisburg, in February, determined to continue the meetings during the months of March and April, generously making personal pledges of sufficient funds to carry on the work. The object of these meetings has not been so much to awaken a general interest in the work as to stimulate and encourage those who are already engaged in it. And yet in many places both objects were accomplished. In some a deep spiritual interest was manifest.

At Carbondale, Great Bend, Williamsport and Jersey Shore, quite a number for the first time made profession of faith in Christ; and the testimony of many Christians was that they had enjoyed genuine times of refreshing.

Many of our organizations have heretofore had no definite aim in view, and the consequence has been a feverish, fitful existence, and in some instances a shameful death. They are not organizations designed for the brethren to congratulate each other that the millenium is coming, or that there is no longer any need of churches or ministers. The true aim of these organizations is "work for the Church of Christ in the salvation of souls;" and more especially of young men. More particularly it means a work for every man, and every man at his work. With these ends in view, our meetings have been blessed in giving permanency and strength to many of the weaker organizations, and setting the work of the Associations in a new light before the minds of the people. Such topics as the following were discussed: "The Object of the Young Men's Christian Association; Its Relation to the Church; The Qualifications of an Effective Association; Personal Consecration to Christ." No programme was arranged that would apply to every place. The topics were selected with reference to the peculiar necessity of each place in which the meetings were held. So far as possible, private meetings were held with the members of the Association, where more specific instruction was given in regard to the work, and with the happiest results.

Twenty-two new organizations have been effected throughout the State during the year. About one hundred Associations are working with more or less

faithfulness and success. The Association at Beaver Falls is making an effort to obtain a building. The employment of one hundred Chinamen in the cutlery establishment of that place makes it a grand field for missionary work.

At Mount Joy they are making an effort to erect a building.

The Association at Carlisle has purchased a mission building where they hold services. Sometimes the worst thing for an Association is to start out with too much financial strength. One of our Associations started with a finely furnished hall and over \$1,000 in the treasury. About one year ago we were pained to record its failure. Over the grave of the old one we hope before long to see a new one rise, strong in spiritual life, organizing victory out of what seems inglorious defeat. Experience is a grand teacher in spiritual work, if we are faithful to learn her lessons.

We regret to record the loss from our work of T. K. Cree, our former worthy and very efficient Chairman of the State Executive Committee. Having accepted a field of great usefulness as Secretary of the Board of Indian Commissioners, we are assured of his influence for the Master among all with whom he may come in contact.

On the whole, our Associations never gave better evidence of permanency, and of persistent working with a definite aim than at the present.

C. C. SHIRK,

Cor. Member.

OHIO.

The work in Ohio has been vigorously prosecuted, and the larger Associations have made encouraging progress. In Cincinnati, more than thirty thousand dollars have been pledged for the new building, and the Association work has been actively pushed in many directions.

A railroad branch of the Y. M. C. A. has been established in the large Union Depot in Cleveland, and the results have already gratified the hearts of its founders.

The Toledo Association has found a home in new, commodious quarters, and has greatly enlarged its operations. Dayton has a flourishing railroad Mission in a building of its own, and sustains two daily prayer meetings throughout the year. Some of the smaller Associations have languished, but at Springdale the oft mooted question, "How can Associations be maintained in the smallest Towns" has been practically answered in one of the smaller towns in the State, and the Association has purchased and furnished a good building with ample facilities for all its meetings. It is free from debt, and the centre of many good influences, literary and religious, which are widely felt. May many do likewise.

H. P. LLOYD, *Cor. Mem.*

MICHIGAN.

The condition of the Young Men's Christian Associations of Michigan has changed but little during the past year. An Association was organized February 5th, 1872, at Union City. I have visited the Associations at Adrian, Ann Arbor, East Saginaw, Grand Rapids, Ionia, Jackson, Niles, and Port Huron, and

addressed meetings at Grand Rapids and East Saginaw. The Associations at Jackson and Monroe have closed their rooms, but have not disbanded. I hope during the coming year they may take on a new life.

A great and good work has been prosecuted by the Associations in Olivet College and the University of Michigan, among the students, and I recommend to my brother Corresponding Members from other States the organizing of Associations in all institutions of learning. The Association at Alpena (a small town in Thunder Bay, Lake Huron) has done a good work, and bids fair to have the first Association building in the State. The Detroit Association has steadily held its different lines of work with good results.

A great deal of time and labor was spent in the relief of sufferers by the great fires, but, thanks to the prompt response to our appeals for aid, we were enabled to help the needy and to care for all.

A State Convention was held February 20th and 21st in East Saginaw. Eleven Associations were represented, and a good degree of interest manifested in the work.

I report now sixteen active Associations, and four Associations that still hold their organization, but are not working.

FRANK D. TAYLOR,
Cor. Member.

WISCONSIN.

We deeply regret the necessity which compels us to record the fact that the Young Men's Christian Associations of our State are not in as prosperous a condition this year as during the one just past. Much as we regret to be obliged thus to speak of our present circumstances, we feel that it is preferable to face the facts in the case as they are, than to attempt, by gilding them over with brilliant language, to present them in any other than their true aspect. As in the former case, knowing "the situation," we are the better prepared to devise ways and means by which to secure in the future such results in the Association work as shall not only speak well for its progress in our State, but shall at the same time prove gratifying to every earnest working Christian, and we trust shall also meet the approving smile of our Divine Master. While in the latter case we should most certainly succeed in crippling not only our abilities and energies, but also our work.

We hoped that the second annual Convention of the Young Men's Christian Associations of our State, (held at Whitewater, November 1st, 2d and 3d, 1871,) would be the means of infusing a new and quickening inspiration into the souls of delegates in attendance; as the natural result of which we expected to see a renewed and more complete consecration of the Associations to the work of saving souls. And while we cannot but believe that delegates were greatly benefited, yet we fear that many forgot to scatter at home some of the spiritual gifts they had received in such abundance while in attendance upon the Convention.

We have been very much distressed when we have observed and had mentioned to us the growing apathy on the part of many of our members, and more especially of some of our clergy, with reference to the work of the Young Men's Christian Associations. But as every dark cloud has a bright side turned toward the sun, so our work during the past year, we trust, has not altogether

resulted in deepening the gloom of the moral atmosphere. We believe that our work has its bright side, even though the eye of God may be the only one that beholds its reflected light; for we learn from some of the reports we have received that a special and growing religious interest has been awakened in some of our Associations. Several of our Associations have either weekly, tri-weekly or daily prayer meetings. Several have reading rooms, libraries, Bible classes for young men, and have also had courses of lectures during the winter.

Financially, we believe the majority of our Associations stand well. None own buildings, or have building funds; the former could hardly be expected as yet in a new work, in a partially developed State, such as is Wisconsin, compared with Eastern States. As we look abroad over our State, even though it is only partially settled, we feel constrained to adopt the sentiment expressed by our Great Leader: "Truly the harvest is great, but the laborers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that he will send forth laborers into the field." That the latter clause may be the prayer of the Convention for the State of Wisconsin, is the earnest wish of your fellow-worker in the cause of our loved Master.

E. D. READE, *Cor. Mem.*

LOUISIANA.

I regret that my report of the history of the Young Men's Christian Association cause in Louisiana during the past year is necessarily so very meagre.

Our work has not only been confined to this city, but it has also been very much confined in the city.

As compared with our possibilities, our achievements have been very small indeed; but that we have been able to maintain our existence, though brought into so straight a place, has, we doubt not, been a blessing to the community.

Were I to be present at the Convention, I might draw from our experience some hints that would be valuable to the brethren when considering the subject of a General Secretary, his duties and qualifications.

By a too hasty selection of such an officer, our progress has been most seriously retarded, and indeed our Association nearly wrecked.

Where such an officer is needed, let the available men (they will never be an host) be carefully canvassed and prayerfully studied, before a selection is made for a position of such peculiar responsibility.

The precipitate of his qualifications will, I think, be found to be *sanctified common sense*, a *joint* and *several* characteristic, and a *sine qua non*. Were it possible, I should heartily second Brother Weldensall's project of a training school for such officers. Surely they need a course of study as much as any candidate for the pulpit ministry.

Success in "street-corner" and "peach-box" ministry needs special preparation. Another extract from the teaching of that school in which even fools are said to learn. Where Associations are to be formed in large towns or cities, and have the prospect of a numerous membership, let them be organized as close corporations, giving to the Association collectively only the selection of a Board of Managers or Directors, and to that Board committing the election and control of all the officers of the Association.

A Young Men's Christian Association is, in some respects, of the earthy, and where the management of its affairs is left to the diffused rather

than the condensed wisdom of its members, too much latitude is afforded for cabal and intrigue. I claim no originality for these ideas, but merely that our experience has proven their correctness.

May the Master in whose cause we are engaged, direct and prosper all the deliberations of the Convention.

A. H. NELSON, *Cor. Mem.*

GEORGIA.

I cannot answer except for the Association of this City. I have written to the different cities, but have received no definite information. The Young Men's Christian Association of this place is doing well, considering all the difficulties labored under. There is now one hundred and fifty active and fifty associate members.

I trust in the Lord's good Providence that by the influences of this Association will be to spread the Gospel of our Redeemer, win souls to Christ, and that the blood-stained banner of the Cross may wave in triumph over every citadel of sin in Georgia.

Regretting that the information is so meagre,

JAS. H. CRANSTON, *Act. Cor. Mem.*

WEST VIRGINIA.

Whilst the Christian activity and vigor of our Associations are not such as an earnest heart might desire, yet very material progress has been made during the year, in preparing the way for future growth and usefulness.

Out of a prayerful plan, formed by our delegates at the Washington Convention, has grown a State Organization, which held its first meeting in Clarksburg, last December, continuing three days, and promises at its next session to gather force and influence for the Master. To that first meeting your Corresponding Member, with those brethren who perfected the arrangements, went with many misgivings and little hope of creating an interest or forming a State Association. But the Master was there, and the sessions were full of quiet confidence and prayer. Life and harmony were woven into even the business hours of the Convention. Anxious inquiry and deep feeling were in the hearts of the evening audiences, and manifested themselves at the opportunity for special prayer. Every minister in the place labored with us, for a blessing. We believe the influences carried home from that place of labor will be felt for the interests of the Y. M. C. A. throughout the State.

The visit of Brother Robt. Weidensall, the efficient General Agent, was not only an acceptable and pleasant affair to the friends of the cause in the State, but did much to make our State Convention a success. Seven new Associations were organized by his direct efforts, thus increasing the whole number to eleven. These new Associations have as yet little to report, but the experience of the coming year, we trust, will nurture them into strength and permanency. Of the older Associations, Wheeling and Parkersburg are doing aggressive service. Malden and Charleston have suspended formal monthly meetings for the present; but the few active members still carry on Christian work weekly in Mission Schools and prayer-meetings under their special directions.

The next State Convention will be held in Parkersburg: time not fixed.

ALVARO F. GIBBENS, *Cor. Mem.*

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

We are holding Sabbath evening services for the masses in our Hall which are largely attended and full of interest. An interesting feature, which attracted an unusual audience, was the announcement of eight sermons, five minutes each. The scripture lesson was Bartimeus, and each of the eight young men gave a thrilling address upon the subject, urging the people to throw aside every obstacle, and as Jesus of Nazareth was passing by to call upon him that they might receive their sight. Following this meeting we held as usual an inquiry meeting, and a large number of young men testified their determination to seek the Saviour. The Sabbath services are reaching multitudes of the unreached.

Our open-air meetings each evening under our auspices are held by representatives from some one church; this has an excellent effect, both upon our meeting following at the rooms and upon the church sending its representatives.

There is scarcely an evening but anxious ones come to the meeting after the open-air services, and some intensely interesting cases of hopeful conversion have come to us.

Some eight or ten of the U. S. Marines stationed at our Navy Yard here have given good evidence of a new found Saviour's love.

A company of our young men seeing in a neighboring Camp Meeting an opportunity to work for the Master, engaged a tent and at such seasons as not to interfere with the regular services held meetings in our own peculiar way. The seasons of silent prayer, the exposition of Scripture and the earnest but unimpassioned appeals from our young men with hearts all aglow with love for the Saviour, were very much honored of the Master in the salvation of souls. On a Sabbath day, from one o'clock until seven in the afternoon a relay meeting was held in woods among the crowds who came not to listen to the preaching. As one after another gave their thrilling testimonies of the power of grace as witnessed or experienced by them, the weeping among the multitudes proved their hearts were reached, and many resolved then to lead new lives.

Our noonday meeting, although small, is a precious place to many souls. One man over 40 years of age gave his testimony a few weeks since, that he came into the rooms to rest from the toil and heat when he heard the invitation to the noon meeting; came into the room, was so impressed he came again and soon became a Christian, and stated on the morrow, Sabbath, for the first time in his life he would go with his five children to church. His daily testimony is of the joy found in the service of the Saviour. Many similar instances are occurring in our midst.

We have recently commenced open-air meetings in Georgetown, which are well sustained and are growing in interest. We are hoping to organize a branch Association in that city as the way may open.

We are preparing a plan of a training College for Christian workers, so that we may have our workers thoroughly prepared in the head as well as the heart for Christian work. I will send you a circular of our plan when perfected.

GEO. A. HALL, *Cor. Mem.*

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES AND BRITISH PROVINCES.

COMPILED FROM THE OFFICIAL REPORTS RECEIVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.—1871-73

NAME.—ADDRESS.	PRESIDENT.	CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.	No. of Members.	Current Expenses last year.	Reading Room.	No. of Volumes in Libary.	Estimated Value of Libary.	Value of Building.	Amount of Debt on it.	Building Fund.	Sermons to Young Men.	Prayer Meetings at known.	Bible Class.	Other Religious Meetings.	Was Day of Prayer Observed in Nov.	Literary Class.	Free Classes.	Direct Results of last year's work.	Special Religious Interest.	No. of Conversions during past year.
Albany N. Y.	E. Savage.	B. Griswold	1,328	\$7,408	Yes	1,847	\$2,500					Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	
Alexandria Va.	G. R. Hill.	G. J. Simeon.	128	700	No			\$400			4	Daily	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	1
Albana, Mich.	Scott Deane.	Z. H. Jones.	61	275	Yes						5	2 weekly	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	
Albana, Pa.	Z. H. Higgins.	G. W. Jones.	285	285	Yes						12	2 weekly	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	
Albana, O.	S. W. Beer.	S. G. Bushnell.	900	1,150	Yes		346				12	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Astleboro, Mass.	A. F. Wood.	G. E. Luther.	63	985	Yes						12	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Astleboro, N. Y.	R. H. Bloom.	G. S. Holmes.	178	1,500	Yes						12	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Astleboro, N. Y.	R. W. Hanson.	J. W. Beale.	940	100	Yes	2,700	3,000	2,500			Yes	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	9
Astleboro, N. Y.	David Cargill.	Howard Owen.	100	2,000	No						Yes	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	2
Astleboro, N. Y.	D. I. Pike.	E. A. Powell.	102	1,485	Yes	400	700	\$11,000			Yes	Daily	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Astleboro, N. Y.	C. C. Stevens.	A. W. Freeman.	102		No						Yes	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Astleboro, N. Y.	S. V. Blunt.	W. H. E. Woodlin.	40		No						Yes	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Ballard Vale, Mass.	A. V. Carrier.	C. A. Starkie.	92		Yes						6	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Batavia, Ill.	G. H. Kennedy.	Wm. Morris Imbue.	149	1,800	Yes	75					6	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Bayonne, N. J.	Prof. R. T. Taylor.	R. H. Cooper.	50		Yes						6	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Beaver Falls, Pa.	R. W. D. Grace.	A. C. Thorne.	38		Yes						6	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Belleville, Pa.	S. S. Lyon.	R. S. Kinloe.	91		Yes						6	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Belleville, Ont. Ca.	A. G. Northrop.	W. E. Holton.	129		No						6	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Barnardston, Mass.	Rev. B. F. Tuck.	S. J. Green.	37		Yes						6	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Barnardston, Mass.	Joseph Devitt.	William Wing.	36		Yes						6	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Bethlehem, Pa.	O. A. Clewell.	O. A. Clewell.	452	5,900	25,000	\$6,000					200	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15
Beverly, Mass.	C. W. Krause.	J. D. Trask.	300	800	Yes	1,900					65	3 weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Biddleford, Me.	D. J. Lefortow.	T. H. Hubbard.	130	850	No						65	3 weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Blairsville, Pa.	J. S. Small.	Benton Dunley.	40	600	Yes	450	300				65	3 weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Boston Highlands, Mass.	J. Hill.	W. F. Steelen.	150	600	Yes	450	300				65	3 weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Bowmanville, Ont. Ca.	W. O'Hara.	P. Trebelcock.	88		No						65	3 weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Brandon, Vt.	H. L. Leoumret.	D. R. Kinman.	100	900	No						65	3 weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Brantford, Ont. Ca.	S. H. Bridgeman.	H. R. Blackader.	146	300	Yes	900					65	3 weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Bridgeport, Conn.	W. H. Parrott.	W. H. Fokitt.	150	600	Yes						65	3 weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Bridgton, Me.	E. R. Staples.	L. G. Kimball.	130		No						65	3 weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Bristol, N. J.	L. A. Bishop.	W. J. Miller.	100	700	Yes	2,133	2,000				65	3 weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	

Brookville, Ontario, Can.	John Murray	G. A. McMiller	120	150	Yes	500	1,000																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																								</
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CONTINUATION OF THE OFFICIAL REPORTS RECEIVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 1871-72.

NAME.—ADDRESS.	PRESIDENT.	CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.	No. of Members.	Current Expenses last year.	Reading Room.	No. of Volumes in Library.	Estimated Value of Library.	Value of Building on it.	Building Fund.	Sermons to Young Men.	Prayer Meetings at Rooms.	Bible Class.	Other Religious Meetings.	Was day of Prayer observed in Nov.	Literary Class.	Free Classes.	Direct Results of last year's work.	Special Religious Interest.	No. of Converts during past year.	
Dubuque, Iowa.	W. Chamberlain.	J. D. Plaister.	40	\$1,256	Yes	150	\$75		None	No	Daily	No	Yes	Yes						19
Dunbar, Pa.	G. L. Pearl.	Thomas Watt.	173	840	Yes	725	600			Yes	2 weekly		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes				
East Brooklyn, N. Y.	E. A. Hutchins.	J. A. Waddell.	20								Weekly									
East Cambridge, Mass.	W. B. Savage.	F. Hutchinson.	102	1,200	Yes	326	210			No	2 weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	13
Easton, Pa.	John Fox.	C. McIntire, Jr.	496	1,673	Yes	700	700		\$5	6	Dly & wly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	
Elizabeth, N. J.	A. A. Ward.	C. B. Orout.	30		No						Weekly		Yes	Yes						
East Whiteland, Pa.	R. Hutchinson.	G. W. Davis.	90		No						2 weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Ellet, Me.	G. J. Kenrick.	R. A. Sanborn.	46		No	None					2 weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Emlenton, Pa.	W. J. McCulla.	L. B. Wise.	177	5,000	Yes	3,000	3,000			Yes	Daily	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Elmira, N. Y.	J. B. Dunning.	Ira F. Hart.	92		Yes						Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	2
Emory, Va.	Daniel H. Atkins.	C. C. Sanders.	150	3,181	Yes	4,708	9,000		None	1	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	
Erie, Pa.	A. R. Caughy.	C. C. Shirk.	18																	
Farlie, Va.	John Stratton.	John Stratton.	25		Yes															
Fairmont, W. Va.	Thomas C. Miller.	J. C. Edely.	538	300	Yes	None			None	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Fall River, Mass.	G. S. King.	H. K. Carmack.	95	613							Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	
Franklin, Pa.	Daniel Castle.	J. W. Tippet.	94		Yes	500	400			Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	
Frederick City, Md.	C. H. B. Fisher.	W. R. Harrison.	90	450	Yes				None	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	
Frederickton, N. B.	W. W. Randolph.	H. B. Chamberlain.	117	750	Yes					Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	5
Freeport, Pa.	P. L. Salmon.	A. Taylor.	55		Yes															
Fulton, N. Y.	J. Ironside.	R. Stratton.	66								Weekly	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Fergus, Ont., Ca.	M. Gibb.	C. Matlock.	303	3,114	Yes	322	300		30,000	6	2 weekly	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Gait, Ont., Ca.	Wm. Adamson.	G. A. Singmaster.	40	35					None	1	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	5
Gettysburg, Pa.	G. W. Foetney.	B. R. Champlan.	96	909	Yes	975	800													
Goshen, N. Y.	A. Sandford.	E. B. Pratt.	43																	
Goshen, Conn.	W. Faneley.	L. Nelson.	30																	
Goshen, N. H.	J. A. Dore.	J. B. Stratton.	60		No															
Grafton, Mass.	H. J. Hollister.	Ed. Hoyt.	132	Yes		250	300		None		Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	
Grand Rapids, Mich.	C. E. Baldwin.	J. Stouris.	40		No	300	600		1,000	20	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	
Grand Bend, Pa.	J. Stouris.	J. Farrington.	183	650	No						Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	
Greentown, N. Y.	J. C. Brown.	J. C. Brown.	134						None	Yes	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	
Greenville (West), Pa.	J. C. Brown.	J. C. Brown.	134		Yes					Yes	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	
Greuelph, Ont., Ca.	Wm. Anderson.		50	300	Yes	87	100		None	Yes	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	

[illegible]

CONTINUATION OF THE OFFICIAL REPORTS RECEIVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 1871-72.

NAME.—ADDRESS.	PRESIDENT.	CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.	No. of Members.	Current Expenses last year.	Reading Room.	No. of Volumes in Libr.	Estimated Value of Libr.	Value of Building.	Amount of Debt on it.	Building Fund.	Sermons to Young Men.	Prayer Meetings at Rooms.	Bible Class.	Other Meetings.	Was day of Prayer observed in Nov.	Literary Class.	Free Classes.	Direct Results of last year's work.	Special Religious Interest.	No. of Conventions during past year.
Meriden, Conn.	F. G. Otis	E. S. Merriman	175	\$1,000	Yes	750	\$1,000	\$1,200	\$1,500	None	No	Weekly							No	...
Michigan University, Ann Arbor, Mich.	H. W. Geobson	G. P. Glenn	...	320		875	1,000				4	Monthly	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	10
Middle Musquodoholt, N. S.	William McCurdy	T. Layton	31								No	Weekly							Yes	
Middletown, Conn.	H. E. Sawyer	G. A. Leaman	...	155	Yes						12	Weekly								
Middletown, Pa.	D. W. Seelman	H. S. Sprague	35								No	Weekly		Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	
Mill Creek, Pa.	C. B. Evans	A. C. Tibbels	53	190	Yes	25	60				No	Weekly		Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	
Millford, Conn.	S. B. Baldwin	L. B. Hart	58	375							None	3 weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	
Millford, Mass.	A. A. Cook	W. W. Huntington	948	1,630	Yes	900	150			None	Yes	Daily	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	
Minneapolis, Minn.	G. B. Bradbury	A. Sandham	778	2,713	Yes	9,313	5,500			32,000	Yes	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	
Mintons, Pa.	T. J. Chaxton		160								Yes	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	
Montreal, Can.	William Jessup		185	220	Yes						Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	
Montclair, N. J.	H. Tenenbury	C. B. Morris	40								5	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	2
Montpelier, Vt.	A. J. How	Truman Beek	58	135							Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	2
Mount Vernon, Ohio	R. E. Taylor	Shas Parr	70								3,000	5 weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	
Mountjoy, Pa.	Rev. G. Kennedy	J. M. Gable	52	50	Yes						No	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	
Mount Pleasant, Pa.	R. G. McKillen	J. A. Nelson	76								No	Daily	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	
Myatie Bridge, Conn.	T. E. Parker	M. C. Hill	131		Yes	300	300			None	No	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	
Napance, Ontario, Can.	R. John Scott	A. S. Morden	44	No	No	None	40			None	No	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	
Nashua, N. H.	R. J. King	A. Truck	197	546	Yes	425	40			Yes	4	None	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	5
Natick, Mass.	J. M. Furbush	G. S. Woods	40	1,007	Yes	337	337			Yes	No	Weekly	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	
Nazareth, Pa.	R. H. Switz	Edwin T. Mack	32	940		60	5				Yes	Daily	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
New Albany, Ind.	J. H. Kautz	H. H. Cumba	256	5,800	Yes	3,900	3,500	12,000	5,000	None	Yes	None	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	
New Alexandria, Pa.	J. Dougherty	J. H. Prugh	180								No	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
New Boston, N. H.	J. S. Edwards	D. D. F. Shedd	136		Yes						3	Daily	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
New Brunswick, N. J.	H. F. R. Kunyon	M. C. Beggan	70	150	Yes					None	No	Daily	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Newburg, N. Y.	S. Vail	J. B. Corven	134	150	Yes					None	No	Daily	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
New Cambridge, Pa.	H. R. Moesen	C. B. Willis	170	500	No					None	No	Daily	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
New Haven, Conn.	C. B. Whitteley	C. M. Wilcox	56	900	Yes	1,068	3,000			None	No	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	
New London, Conn.	J. N. Harris		16								No	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	
New Orleans, La.	L. G. Meller	A. McDonald	10								No	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	
New Sheffield, Pa.	J. W. Douds										No	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	

[illegible]

CONTINUATION OF THE OFFICIAL REPORTS RECEIVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 1871-72.

NAME.—ADDRESS.	PRESIDENT.	CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.	No. of Members.	Current Expenses last year.	Reading Room.	No. of Volumes in Library.	Estimated Value of Library.	Value of Building.	Amount of Debt on it.	Building Fund.	Sermons to Young Men.	Prayer Meetings at Rooms.	Bible Class.	Other Religious Meetings.	Was Day of Prayer observed in Nov.	Literary Class.	Free Class.	Direct Results of last year's work.	Special Religious Interest.	No. of Conversations during past year.
Seranton, Pa.	H. M. Boies	W. D. Moesman	620	3,468	Yes	660	1,000				Yes	Daily	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	50
Selma, Ala.	P. G. Wood	B. Woodward	207	800	Yes	300	300			600	Yes	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	35
Shakelville, Pa.	J. W. McCoy	J. E. Phillips	17	\$20						None	1	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Sherbrooke, Ont., Can.	J. A. Macdonald	A. G. Russell	47	23						None	12	2 weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Shippensburg, Pa.	W. B. Witherspoon	E. J. Forney	46	200							Yes	2 weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Shrewsbury, Pa.	Henry Latimer	J. H. Moody	20	17							Yes	2 weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	1
Shoreham, Vt.	C. W. Jones	M. W. Bingham	50	15				\$1,800	\$400		Yes	2 weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
South Boston, Mass.	J. Morse	W. H. Partridge	315	569	Yes	400	\$375				Yes	2 weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	3
Spencer, Mass.	D. A. Ball	G. P. Ladd	63	181	Yes						No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Springfield, Mass.	O. D. Morse	Geo. F. Farmer	350	1,475	Yes	None				None	No	2 weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes
St John, N. B.	William Welch	J. E. Irvine	648	1,300	Yes	440	600			\$1,500	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes
St Johnsbury, Vt.	C. H. Gilbert	E. A. Walker	85	250	Yes	None					4	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes
St. Catharines, Can.	J. Miller, Jr.	W. H. Howson	110	420	Yes	90	100			500	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes
St Paul, Minn.	D. R. Noyes, Jr.	E. W. Chase	188	3,203	Yes	335	150				3	Daily	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes
Steubenville, Ohio	A. W. Reid	J. Buchanan	214	760	Yes	1,200	1,600			None	No	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes
Stincham, Mass.	D. A. Abbott	J. W. Coombe	32	49	No					None	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Stamford, Conn.	W. Gillespie	R. H. Gillespie	25	350	Yes	50	75			None	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Susquehanna, Pa.	A. C. Purpus		25		Yes					None	No	Weekly	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Syracuse, N. Y.	M. W. Hanchitt	O. S. F. Brown	325	2,300	Yes	1,000	1,000			None	Yes	Daily	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes
Tamaqua, Pa.	W. H. Gable	J. W. Abbott	38	215							Yes	Weekly	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes
Temperanceville, Pa.	S. French	D. R. Harris								None	Yes	2 weekly	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	Yes
Tidoute, Pa.	J. Andrews	J. E. Jones	90	500	Yes	110	150			None	Yes	2 weekly	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	Yes
Tiffin, Ohio	J. M. C. Martin	D. F. Keller	60	40	Yes		50				5	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	Yes
Titusville, Pa.	Sevayance	— Coburn	40		Yes						8	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Toledo, Ohio	E. H. Rhodes	T. A. Nelson	258	2,018	Yes	300	30			9,000	Daily	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Toronto, Can.	John Macdonald	T. J. Wilkie	410	1,393	Yes	1,141	1,000			28,000	No	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes
Trenton, N. J.	J. C. Brown	L. Penber, Jr.	325	811	Yes	3,500				None	No	Daily	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
Troy, Ohio	J. N. Highland	L. V. Ferris	114	630	Yes	50				None	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Turtle Creek, Pa.	J. H. McMaster	D. E. Shaw	40	900	Yes						Yes	8 weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Tyronc, Pa.	E. M. Hunkler	R. Waring	35	138							1	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Union City, Pa.	L. B. Hill	C. W. Dabury	75	75	Yes						12	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Union Town, Pa.	N. Ewing, Jr.	A. W. Boyd	110		Yes						No	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
Utica, N. Y.	John Kyles	E. Hunt	100	800	Yes	None					No	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	1

Warwick, Vt.	Rev. W Sewall	H. B. Olds	30	15	No	13,000	300,000	No	Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	306
Washington, D. C.	F. H. Smith	William M. Men.	1,060	10	389	Yes		None	3 daily	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Washington, Pa.	F. Brady, Jr.	J. Alken	68	\$250	Yes				No	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No
Wakfield, Mass.	S. A. Hunter	N. A. Staples	100	No	No				Weekly	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	5
Waterbury, Conn.	R. B. Swilim	W. J. Fletcher	60	200	No			None	Weekly	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No
Watertown, N. Y.	H. W. Congdon	G. B. Massey	97	733	Yes	300	\$300		Daily	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No
Wattaburg, Pa.	D. R. Palmer	Miss E. M. Hill														
Warren, Pa.	W. V. Hazeltine	W. M. Lindsey	64	900	No	800	700			No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	5
Wayneboro, Pa.	R. A. Tipton	S. B. Robbins	55	No	No			None	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No
Weatherly, Pa.	G. P. Amberson	M. E. Exler	40	Yes	Yes				Weekly	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No
West Fairview Pa.	C. H. Dewitt	Edw. Smith	10						Weekly	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No
Westboro, Mass.	H. D. Maser	G. W. Sawyer	40	8	Yes				Weekly	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No
Westerly, R. I.	Cyrus Fay	S. M. Griggs	61	225	Yes				90 Daily	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	24
Westfield, Pa.	J. Stillman	R. F. Latimer	160	1,300	Yes			None	2 Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Westfield, Mass.	Wm. A. Taylor	A. B. McConnell	95	65	No	65	100		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Westfield, N. J.	E. B. Smith	H. Lyman	115													No
Wheeling, W. Va.	R. J. Crosby	A. Bennett	103	200	Yes	400	300		2 monthly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Wilkeson, Pa.	W. B. Simpson	G. S. Rippard	50	Yes	Yes				Weekly	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
Williamsport, Pa.	G. S. Bennett	S. E. Faust	36	384	Yes				Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Winsted, Conn.	G. J. Berry	L. M. Blake	50	20	Yes	15	30	\$10	3 Weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	30
Winnboro, S. C.	J. D. Smart	M. V. Blake	93	Yes	Yes	429	450		2 weekly	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Winthrop, Me.	L. Jones	H. Woodward														No
Wittsburg, Pa.	Levi Ward	G. B. Leach														No
Wilton Temple, N. H.	W. Foster	R. A. Smith	40	No	No			None	1 Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
Winoski, Vt.	S. E. Smith	L. H. Elliott	32	97	Yes			None	5 Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Woodstock, Ont., Can.	David White, Jr.	J. Bain	60	200	Yes			None	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Woodstock, Vt.	L. Pichmond	R. S. Southgate	94					5,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yardouth, N. Y.	A. E. Leach	A. H. Poole	70	800	Yes				Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
York, Pa.	D. E. Snell	C. G. Welch	214	684	Yes	130			Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Young Men's Union, Pa.	W. C. Bouton	D. W. Parva							Weekly	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Zanesville, Ohio.	H. G. O. Cary	E. W. Allen	200	550	Yes	300	450	6,000	10 Daily	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES AND BRITISH PROVINCES, in account with their Treasurer for the year ending June, 1872.

Money on hand at beginning of year.....	\$1,164 99
Subscriptions paid for General Expenses, 1869.....	124 00
" " " " 1870.....	1,606 00
" " " " 1871.....	4,646 21
" " Reports of Convention, 1869.....	5 00
" " " " 1870.....	102 65
" " " " 1871.....	864 90
Am't rec'd from sales of Life Membership Certificates..	93 14
" " Songs of Devotion.....	641 88
Sundries.....	16 07
Interest.....	80 98
	<u>\$8,795 72</u>

Printing and Stationery.....	\$ 424 49
Postage.....	180 67
Travelling Expenses, attending State Conventions.....	287 15
R. Weidemann Salary and Travelling Expenses.....	2,545 83
R. C. Morse " " " ".....	1,238 48
Appropriated to "Association Monthly".....	1,750 00
Expenses incident to Washington Convention.....	105 00
Sundries.....	30 72
Journal of Proceedings, Printing.....	624 00
" " Reporter.....	112 00
Cash on hand.....	<u>\$7,328 29</u>
	<u>1,412 43</u>
	<u>\$8,795 72</u>

Audited and found correct,
H. P. HOADLEY,
GEO. A. CHRISTIE, M.D., } *Auditing Committee.*

SUBSCRIPTIONS AT WASHINGTON CONVENTION.

For General Expenses, paid.....	\$4,646 21	
" unpaid.....	3,324 00	
		\$7,990 21
For Reports of Convention, paid.....	\$354 90	
" unpaid.....	276 00	
		\$630 90

UNPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS.

For General Expenses, 1868.....	\$10 00	
" 1869.....	882 00	
" 1870.....	175 00	
" 1871.	8,834 00	
		\$3,901 00
For Reports of Convention, 1868.....	\$5 00	
" 1869.....	61 50	
" 1870.....	46 00	
" 1871.....	276 00	
		\$388 50

	Report.	Gen. Ex.	Total.		Report.	Gen. Ex.	Total.
Alexandria Va.		\$10 00	\$10 00	New Haven, Conn.	\$2 50	\$110 00	\$112 50
Alpina, Mich.	\$5 00	20 00	25 00	New London, Conn.	5 00	25 00	30 00
Ann Arbor, Mich.	2 50	10 00	12 50	New Orleans, La.		35 00	35 00
Ashland, Ohio	2 50	10 00	12 50	Newport, N. H.	2 50	5 00	7 50
Attica, Ind.	50		50	New Utrecht, N. Y.	1 00	6 00	7 00
Attleboro. Mass.	1 00	10 00	11 00	New York	25 00	1215 00	1240 00
Auburn, N. Y.	5 00	50 00	55 00	Northboro., Mass.	50	10 00	10 50
Baltimore, Md.	13 00	120 00	133 00	North Elba, N. Y.	50		50
Beaver, Pa.		5 00	5 00	Oakham, Mass.	1 00	5 00	6 00
Bethlehem, Pa.	13 00	50 00	63 00	Oberlin, Ohio.		5 00	5 00
Boston, Mass.	5 00	275 00	280 00	Olivet, Mich.	1 00	2 00	3 00
Brooklyn, N. Y.		350 00	350 00	Orange, N. J.	6 00	30 00	36 00
Brunswick, Me.	2 50	15 00	17 50	Parkersburg, W. Va.	1 00	5 00	6 00
Bucyrus, Ohio	10 00		10 00	Parkman Centre, Pa.	5 00	25 00	30 00
Burlington, Vt.		10 00	10 00	Philadelphia, Pa.		1000 00	1000 00
Carlisle, Pa.	2 50	10 00	12 50	Pictou, N. S.	2 50	10 00	12 50
Centerville, Pa.		2 00	2 00	Pike, Pa.		2 00	2 00
Charlestown, W. Va.	50	5 00	5 50	Pittsburgh, Pa.	5 00	250 00	255 00
Charlestown, Mass.	2 50	20 00	22 50	Plainfield, N. J.	2 50	10 00	12 50
Charlottetown, Pr.				Plainsville, Conn.	3 00	15 00	18 00
Ed. Island.	5 00	10 00	15 00	Pontiac, Ill.	2 50	5 00	7 50
Cincinnati, Ohio	12 50	325 00	337 50	Port Hope, Ca.	2 50	5 00	7 50
Cleveland, Ohio.	10 00	100 00	110 00	Portland, Me.	7 50	50 00	57 50
Clinton, Mass.	2 00	5 00	7 00	Poughkeepsie, N. Y.	2 00	30 00	32 00
Coatesville, Pa.	50		50	Princeton, Ont., Ca.	2 50		2 50
Connelsville, Pa.	1 00	5 00	6 00	Providence, R. I.	12 50	50 00	62 50
Crossroads, Rogers				Putnam, Conn.	1 50	5 00	6 50
hill, N. S.	2 00		2 00	Quebec, Ca.	1 00	5 00	6 00
Dayton, Ohio	5 00	20 00	25 00	Reading, Pa.	5 00	5 00	10 00
Detroit, Mich.	2 65	30 00	32 65	Rochester, Minn.	5 00	10 00	15 00
East Whiteand, Pa.	7 50	3 00	10 50	Rockport, Mass.	1 00	5 00	6 00
Elizabeth, N. J.	12 50	50 00	62 50	Rutland, Mass.		5 00	5 00
Erie, Pa.	5 00	50 00	55 00	St. Catherine, Ont.,			
Fitchburg, Mass.	1 50	5 00	6 50	Ca.	2 50	5 00	10 00
Fort Wayne, Ind.	1 00	5 00	6 00	St. John, N. B.	5 00	31 10	36 10
Frederick City, Md.	2 50	10 00	12 50	St. Louis, Mo.	50	100 00	150 50
Fulton, N. Y.	2 50	10 00	12 50	St. Paul, Minn.		25 00	25 00
Goshen, N. Y.	2 50	25 00	27 50	San Francisco, Cal.		100 00	100 00
Goshen, Conn.	50		50	Schenectady, N. Y.	2 50	10 00	12 50
Grand Rapids, Mich.	5 00	10 00	15 00	Scranton, Pa.	10 00	20 00	30 00
Greenfield, Mass.	1 00	10 00	11 00	Slippery Rock, Pa.		5 00	5 00
Hagerstown, Md.	5 00	5 00	10 00	Sheffield, Ohio.	1 00		1 00
Halifax N. S.		50 00	50 00	Somerville, Mass.	5 00	100 00	105 00
Hamilton, Ont. Ca.	5 00	40 00	45 00	So. Deerfield, Mass.	3 00	29 00	32 00
Hanover Coll. Ind.	1 00	5 00	6 00	Spencer, Mass.	1 00	5 00	6 00
Harrisburgh Pa.		200 00	200 00	Stoneham, Mass.	1 50	5 00	6 50
Haverhill, Mass.	7 50	20 00	27 50	Syracuse, N. Y.		20 00	20 00
Hopkinton, Mass.		5 00	5 00	Tidonto, Pa.	5 00	11 11	15 00
Hudson, N. Y.	2 50	25 00	27 50	Toronto, Ca.		11 11	11 11
Johnstown, Pa.	2 00	3 00	5 00	Trenton, N. J.	5 00	10 00	15 00
Kalamazoo, Mich.	50		50	Truro, N. S.	40		40
Lafayette, Ind.	5 00	10 00	15 00	Wakefield, Mass.	2 50	5 00	7 50
Lafayette College, Pa.	5 00	15 00	20 00	Washington, D. C.	47 00	250 00	297 00
Lancaster, Pa.	2 50	5 00	7 50	Westboro', Mass.	1 00		1 00
Leicester, Mass.	50	5 00	5 50	Westerly, R. I.	2 50	25 00	27 50
Louisville, Ky.	5 00	10 00	15 00	Westfield, Pa.	1 00	1 00	2 00
Lowell, Mass.	3 00	100 00	103 00	Wheeling, W. V.	5 00	50 00	55 00
Lynn, Mass.		25 00	25 00	Whitewater, Wis.	2 50	10 00	12 50
Manchester, N. H.	2 50	10 00	12 50	Williamsport, Pa.	1 00	5 00	6 00
Mansfield, Ohio	5 00	25 00	30 00	Winsted, Conn.	1 00	65 00	66 00
Marblehead, Mass.	1 00		1 00	Winthrop, Me.		50 00	50 00
Milford, Mass.	50	1 00	1 50	Woodboro', Md.	5 00	10 00	15 00
Milford, Conn.	50	5 00	5 50	Woodstock, Vt.	50		50
Minneapolis, Minn.	5 00	10 00	15 00	Worcester, Mass.	13 50	60 00	73 50
Montclair, N. J.	5 00	10 00	15 00	York, Pa.	10 00	30 00	40 00
Montreal, Ca.	5 00	25 00	30 00	Salas.	2 50		2 50
Moodus, Conn.	50		50				
Maine State Conv'n.		100 00	100 00				
Newark, N. J.		25 00	25 00				
Newburgh, N. Y.	1 00	10 00	11 00				
						</	

ASSOCIATIONS WHICH DID NOT FORMALLY REPORT AT LOWELL.

BERMUDA.

Hamilton Parish,
Harrington.

CANADA.

Ayr,
Barrie,
Craigvale,
Kingston,
Oakville,
Ottawa,
Quebec,
Welland.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Bathurst,
Carlton,
Central Norton,
Chatham,
Miramichi,
Richibucto,
St. Andrews,
St. Stephens,
Upper Norton.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Antigonish,
Albion Mines,
Amherst,
Baddeck,
Brooklin,
Cape George,
Cape John,
Carriboo & Tony River,
Canard,
Clifton,
Churchville,
Dartmouth,
Durham,
Fisher's Grant,
Faneuil Hall,
Goldsville,
Great Village Folly,
Guysborough,
Glenelg,
Green Hill,
Hermon Church,
Hopesville,
Kentville,
Loading Ground,
Londonderry,
Lower Barney's River,
Lyon's Brook,
Maitland,
Merigomish,
Marshville,
Middle Stewiacke,
Meagher's Grant,

Masquoboit Harbor,
Marshy Hope,
Middleton,
Mount Thorn,
New Glasgow,
North East Margaree,
Newport,
Pictou,
Portapique,
Rocklin,
Rosen's Hill,
Scotahill,
Scotsburn,
Springside,
Stewiacke,
Salem Church,
Sherbrooke,
Springville,
Sunnybrae,
Sutherland River,
Sydney,
Tatamagouche,
Truro,
Upper Londonderry,
Watervale,
Waterville,
West River,
Westville,
Windsor,
Yarmouth.

PRINCE EDWARD'S ISL'D.

Charlottetown.

ALABAMA.

Huntsville.

CALIFORNIA.

San Jose,
Stockton.

COLORADO.

Grass Valley,
Marysville.

CONNECTICUT.

Ansonia,
Bristol,
Danielsonville,
Hartford,
Morris,
Mystic,
North Stonington,
Norwalk,
Plantville,
Putnam,
Rockville,
West Hartford,

West Meriden,
Woodbury.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

East Washington,
Georgetown,
Washington (colored).

FLORIDA.

Jacksonville.

GEORGIA.

Augusta,
Athens, (State University).

ILLINOIS.

Arcola,
Bloomington,
Brimfield,
Carbondale,
Champaign,
Chicago,
Clinton,
Elgin,
Fairburg,
Freeport,
Galesburg,
Henepin,
Jacksonville,
Lincoln,
Mendota,
Monmouth,
Morris,
Olney,
Peoria,
Pontiac,
Princeville,
Quincy,
Rockford,
Rock Island,
Shawneetown,
Shelbyville,
Springfield,
St. Charles,
Washburn,
Wilmington.

INDIANA.

Cambridge,
Crawfordsville,
Fort Wayne, (English)
Fort Wayne, (German)
Franklin,
Greencastle,
Greenfield,
Howard,
Jeffersonville,

Lafayette,
Michigan City, (Eng'h)
Michigan City, (Ger'n)
Mishawaka,
Seymour.

IOWA.

Boonsboro,
Clinton,
Davenport,
Des Moines,
Decora,
Eddyville,
Fort Dodge,
Iowa City,
Keokuk,
Marion,
Marshalltown,
Monticello,
Mount Vernon,
Montana,
Oscalooza,
Ottumway,
Tabor,
Waterloo,
West Branch,
Wilton.

KANSAS.

Atchison,
Junction,
Lawrence,
Manhattan.

KENTUCKY.

Bowling Green,
Covington,
Louisville,
Lexington.

MAINE.

Bath,
Bay City,
Fryeburg,
Gardiner,
Leeds,
Lewiston,
North Berwick,
Richmond,
Sunderland,
Waterville.

MARYLAND.

Annapolis,
Baltimore,
Bladensburg,
Hagerstown,
Harrisonville,
Lutherville,
Mechanicstown,
Woodsboro.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Amesbury,

Ashland,
Barre,
Boston,
Belchertown,
Brookfield,
Cambridge,
Cambridgeport,
Chicopee,
East Abington,
East Hampton,
East Gloucester,
East Somerville,
East Boston,
Foxboro,
Fitchburg,
Gardner,
Greenfield,
Hadfield,
Haverhill,
Heath,
Holliston,
Hubbardstown,
Lawrence,
Leicester,
Medford,
Medway,
Middleboro,
Newburyport,
New Bedford,
Newton Corner,
New Ipswich,
North Bridgewater,
North Wrentham,
Plymouth,
Riverdale,
Sandwich,
Saxonville,
Somerville,
South Deerfield,
South Danvers,
South Hadley,
South Weymouth,
Taunton,
Townsend,
Weymouth,
West Amesbury,
West Brookfield,
Westminster,
West Newton,
Wellsby,
Webster,
Whitensville,
Winchester,
Windham,
Westboro,
Worcester,
Yarmouthport,
Yarmouth.

MICHIGAN.

Adrian,
Allegan,
Battle Creek,
Bay City,

Corruna,
East Saginaw,
Eaton Rapids,
Greenville,
Hillsdale,
Holly,
Jackson,
Kalamazoo,
Lansing Normal School
Marquette,
Marshall,
Monroe,
Niles,
Olivet,
Pontiac,
Port Huron,
St. Clair,
Ypsilanti.

MINNESOTA.

Anoka,
Austin,
Duluth,
Hastings,
Wankato,
Redwing.

MISSISSIPPI.

Columbus.

MISSOURI.

Hannibal,
Holden,
Kirksville,
Sedalia,
Springfield,
Warrensburg.

NEBRASKA.

Brownsville,
Fremont,
Kansas City,
Nebraska City,
Omaha.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Canterbury,
Claremont,
Centre Harbor,
Dover,
Exeter,
Farmington,
Francetown,
Franklin,
Great Falls,
Hampton,
Laconia,
Meriden,
Milford,
New Ipswich,
New Castle,
New Market,
Salmon Falls,
Sandwich,

Seabrook.

NEW JERSEY.

Atlantic City,
Bergen,
Beverly,
Boonton,
Bordentown,
Bridgeton,
Dover,
Elizabethport,
Freehold,
Hackettstown,
Hudson City,
Lambertsville,
Lawrenceville,
Metuchin,
Newark, (German)
Orange,
Rockaway,
Roseville,
South Orange,
Vineland,
West Hoboken,
Whippany.

NEW YORK.

Amsterdam,
Batavia,
Bath,
Binghamton,
Brewster's Station,
Camden,
Canandaigua,
Canestota,
Clinton,
Cohoes,
Delhi,
Dobbs Ferry,
Dunkirk,
East New York,
Geneva,
Gouverneur,
Greenwich,
Hoosick Falls,
Hornellsville,
Jamaica,
Little Britain,
Malone,
Middletown,
Mount Kisco,
New York City, (col'd),
New York, (German),
New York, (Harlem
Branch),
Nicholsville,
Ogden Centre,
Oswego,
Owego,
Palmyra,
Peru,
Phelps,
Phenix,
Plattsburg,

Richmond,
Riverhead,
Rome,
Sandy Hill,
Spring Valley,
Walton,
Wayne,
Weedsport.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Charlotte,
Fayetteville,
Goldsboro,
Raleigh,
Wilmington (English),
Wilmington (German).

OHIO.

Akron,
Ashtabula,
Bellair,
Bucyrus,
Cambridge,
Canton,
Chagrin Falls,
Chardon,
Chillicothe,
Circleville,
Columbiana,
Coshocton,
Damascoville,
Delaware,
East Fairfield,
East Liverpool,
Elyria,
Findlay,
Fremont,
Geneva,
Granville,
Hillsboro,
Ironton,
Lima,
Lockland,
Lucas,
Marion,
Middletown,
Mount Gilead,
Mount Union,
Newburg,
Oberlin,
Painesville,
Ravenna,
Ripley,
Sandusky,
Sheffield,
Shelby,
Springdale,
Springfield,
Trenton,
Urbana,
Walnut Hills,
Xenia,
Youngstown.

OREGON.

Portland.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Bloomsburg,
Burgettstown,
Crescent,
Frankford,
Hermion,
Kensington,
Lyonning Creek,
McKeisport,
New Milford,
North East,
Pennsylvania College,
(Gettysburg),
Philadelphia (colored),
Tunkhammock,
Union City,
Washington,
Wilksburg,
Whiteland,
Williamsport,
Wolf Creek,
Wilkesbarre,
Young Men's Union.

RHODE ISLAND.

Centreville,
Pawtucket,
Providence,
Warren.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Cokesbury,
Columbia, (colored),
Charleston, (colored),
Florence,
Georgetown,
Greenville,
Hamilton,
Newburg,
Spartansburg,
Sumpter,
Wingsburg,
Yorkville.

TENNESSEE.

Bristol,
Clarksville,
Greenville,
Knoxville (E. Tenn.
University),
Wesley University,
(Athens.)

TEXAS.

Houston,
Rockport.

VERMONT.

Berlin,
Bradford,
Bridgeport,

Bristol,
Brattleboro,
East Middlebury,
Fairfax,
Fairhaven,
Johnstown,
Lincoln,
Manchester,
Middlebury,
Mount Holly,
Norwich,
Orwell,
Peacham,
Pittsford,
Poultney,
Rutland,
Salisbury,
South Royalton,
Stowe,
Springfield,
Sudbury,
Townsend,
Underhill Centre,
Vergennes,

Waterburg Centre,
West Brattleboro,
Weston,
Weybridge,
Wilmington,
Windham,
Windsor,
West Rutland.

VIRGINIA.

Charlottesville (University of Virginia),
Lynchburg,
Marion,
Norfolk,
Richmond,
Roanoke College (Salem),
Virginia Military Institute,
Washington and Lee University (Lexington.)

WEST VIRGINIA.

Charlestown,
Grafton,
Kanawha Salines,
Malden,
Mandeville,
Morgantown State University,
Morgantown,
Moundsville,
Parkersburg,
Point Pleasant.

WISCONSIN.

Beaver Dam,
Beloit,
Madison,
Milwaukee,
Portage City,
Racine,
Ripon,
Whitewater.



Members of the General Executive Committee.

Appointed at Lowell, June 14th, for Three Years.

Located in New York.

CEPHAS BRAINERD,	48 Pine Street
JAMES STOKES, JR.,	104 John Street
TIMOTHY G. SELLEW, JR.,	103 Fulton Street
ROBERT R. MCBURNEY, Y. M. C. A. Building, (corner of 23d Street and 4th Ave.)	
EDGAR A. HUTCHINS,	37 Pine Street
BENJAMIN C. WETMORE,	9 Pine Street
VERRANUS MORSE, M. D.,	271 Carlton Ave., Brooklyn

Corresponding Members.

Prince Edwards Island	CHARLES PALMER	Charlottetown.
Nova Scotia	JAMES FARQUHAR	Halifax.
New Brunswick	JOSHUA CLAWSON	St. John.
Ontario	GEORGE A. YOUNG	Hamilton.
Maine	GEO. W. GARCELON	Lewiston.
New Hampshire	Rev. H. B. UNDERWOOD	Hillsboro Bridge
Vermont	L. W. HAWLEY	Cecla.
Massachusetts	LEVI P. ROWLAND	Boston.
Rhode Island	E. R. HOLDEN	Providence.
Connecticut	NEWTON FULLER	New London.
New York	ERSKINE UHL	Poughkeepsie.
New Jersey	J. A. BEECHER	Trenton.
Pennsylvania	Rev. S. A. TAGGART	Pittsburg.
District of Columbia	Rev. GEO. A. HALL	Washington.
Virginia	GEO. R. HILL	Alexandria.
West Virginia	ALVARO F. GIBBENS	Charleston.
North Carolina	R. H. T. HUDSON	Raleigh.
South Carolina	Rev. C. E. CHICHESTER	Columbia.
Georgia	J. H. CRANSTON	Augusta.
Florida	C. L. ROBINSON	Jacksonville.
Alabama	H. L. MCKEE	Selma.
Louisiana	A. H. NELSON	New Orleans.
Kentucky	J. L. WHEAT	Louisville.
Tennessee	JOHN E. BURSON	Bristol.
Ohio	H. P. LLOYD	Cincinnati.
Indiana	W. S. WOOTEN	Indianapolis.
Michigan	FRANK D. TAYLOR	Detroit.
Wisconsin	E. D. READE	Milwaukee.
Minnesota	J. D. BLAKE	Rochester.
Delaware		
Maryland		
Mississippi		
Texas		
Illinois		
Kansas		
Missouri		
Nebraska		
Iowa		

Cont.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

Young Men's Christian Associations

OF THE

UNITED STATES AND BRITISH PROVINCES,

HELD AT POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y.,

JULY 9-13, 1873.

Reported by T. J. HAMILTON, Stenographer, New York.

New York:

PUBLISHED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

1873.



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III. 9379. 2.

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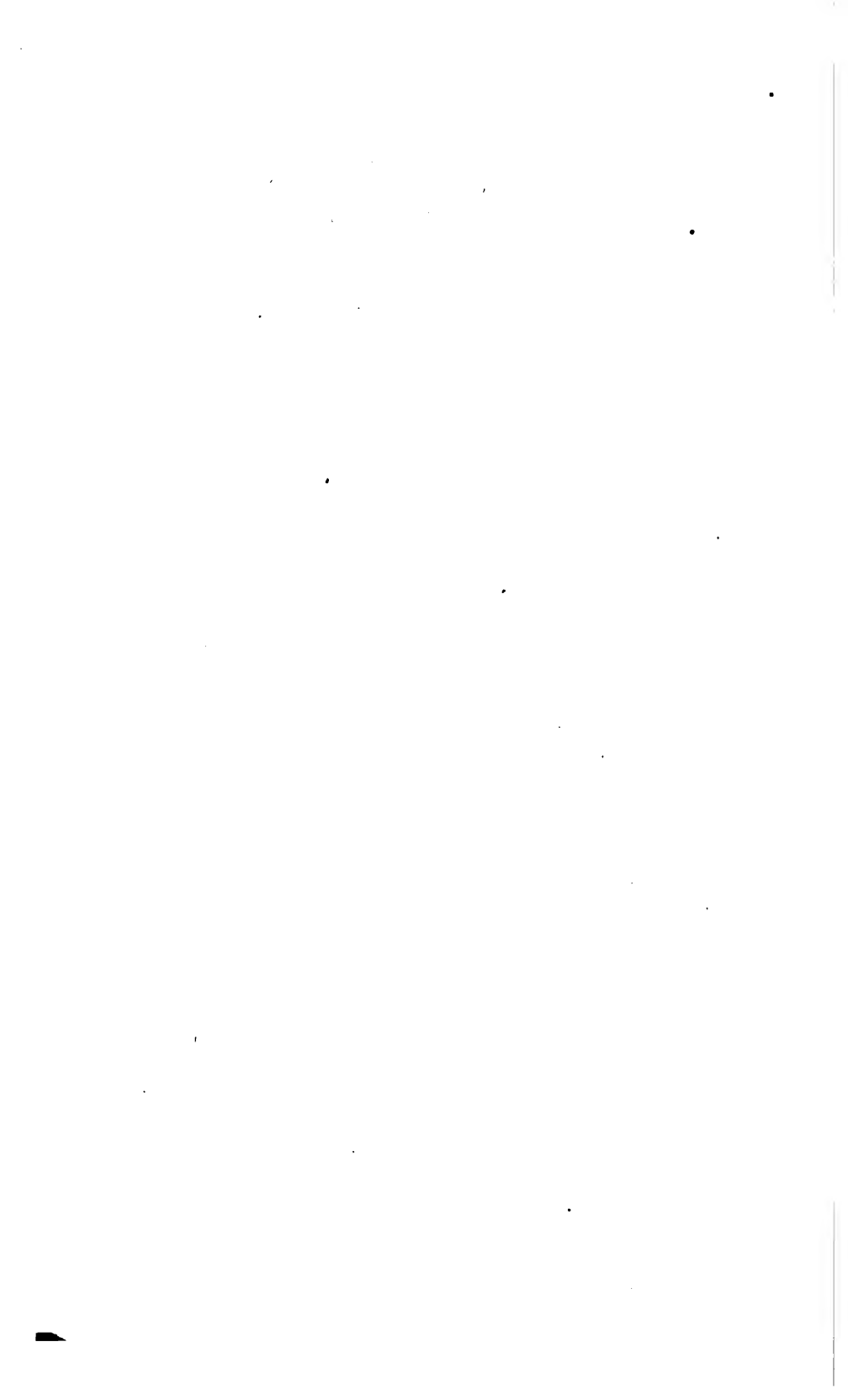
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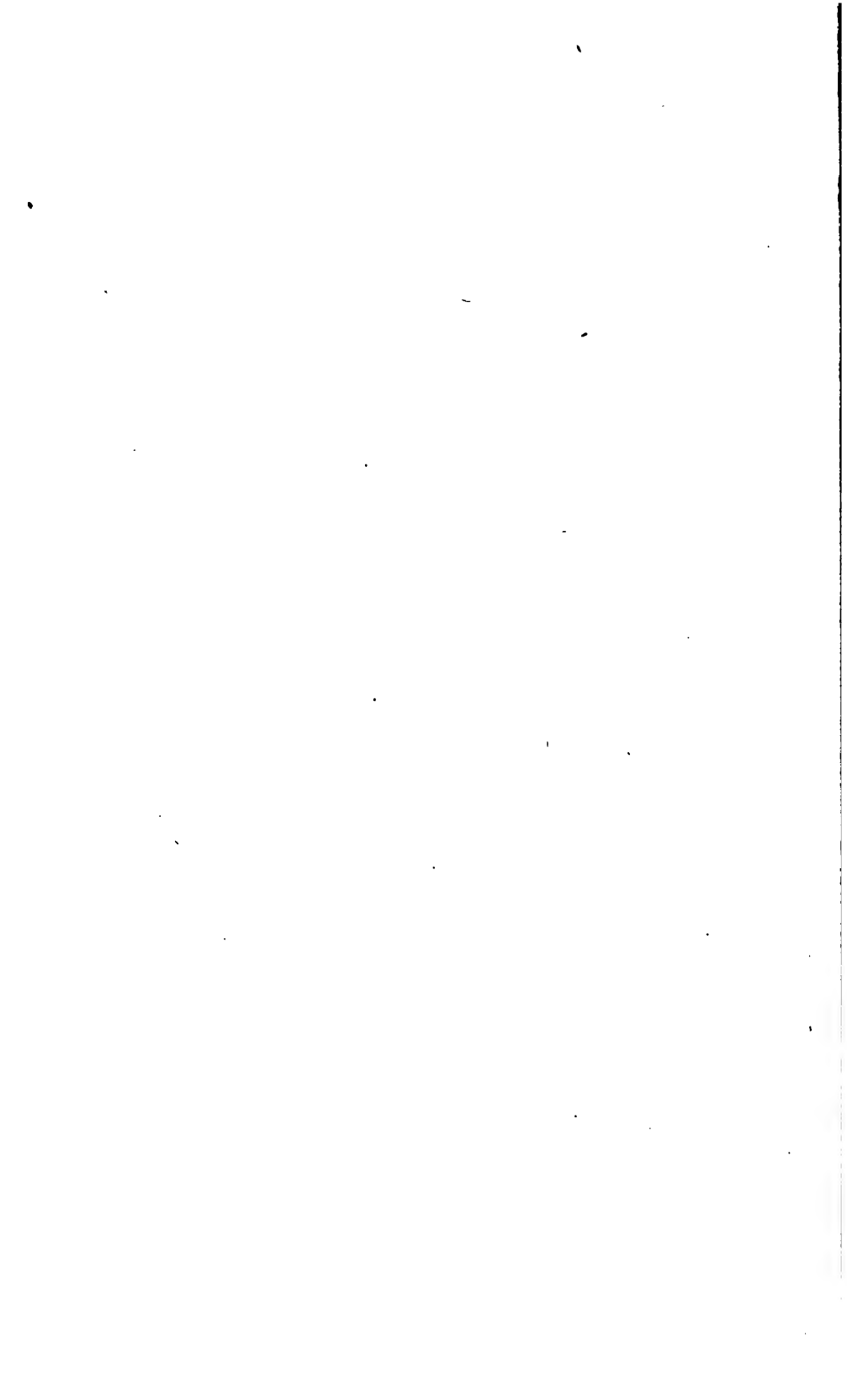
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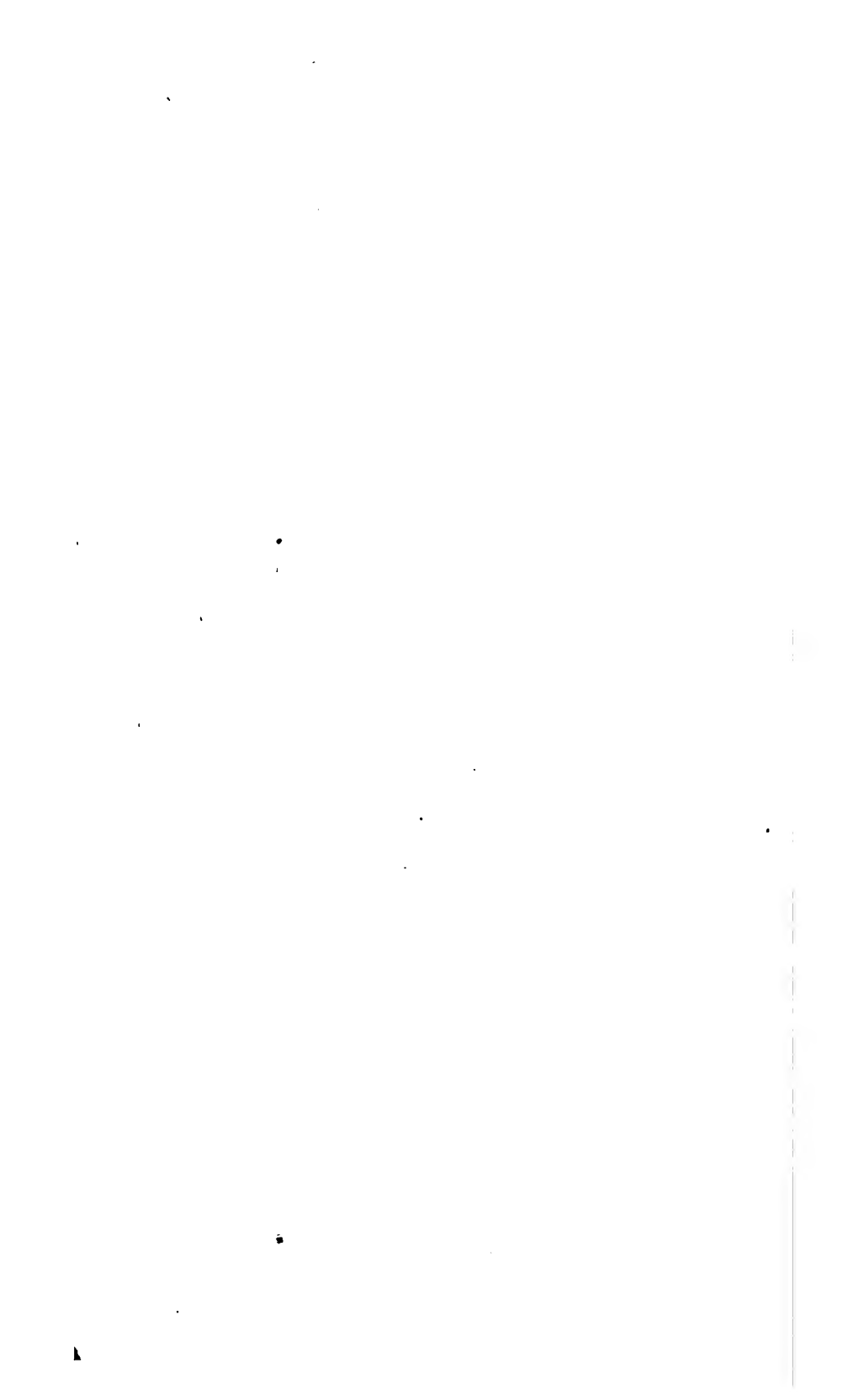
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Circular Calling the Convention.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS }
OF THE UNITED STATES AND BRITISH PROVINCES. }
Corner of 4th Avenue and 23d Street. }

NEW YORK, *May 24th*, 1873.

The Lowell Convention of these Societies adjourned to meet at San Francisco, California, or, in case satisfactory arrangements could not be made with the Railroad Companies, at Poughkeepsie, New York. Negotiation with these Companies, and extended consultation with members of the Associations in different parts of the continent, made it evident that the obstacles in the way of calling the Convention in San Francisco were, at present, insurmountable. Accordingly the next Convention will be held at Poughkeepsie, New York. After conference with the appropriate committee of the Association in that city, Wednesday, the 9th day of July next, has been fixed upon as the time most likely to be satisfactory.

All Young Men's Christian Associations entitled, under the the Rules of the General Conventions, to representation, are therefore invited to send delegates to this, the Eighteenth Annual Convention.

The Meeting for Organization will be held at 11 A. M., July 9th, in the building of the Poughkeepsie Association.

The following is a summary of the Rules of the Conventions in regard to representation :

1. No Association is entitled to representation whose Constitution has not been furnished to the Executive Committee—few Associations have as yet complied with this rule.

2. Each Association must also have furnished to the Committee a statement of the number of its members, showing how many are active and how many associate.

3. No Association organized since the Portland Convention is entitled to representation unless its test of active membership is that prescribed at that Convention.

4. Representation is based only on the number of active members—those having one hundred members, or less, are entitled to two Delegates, and one additional Delegate for each additional one hundred members; but no Association is entitled to more than ten Delegates.

Under a Resolution adopted at Washington, May, 1871, the Executive Committee will appoint a Temporary Committee on Credentials, which will be in attendance at the Railroad Depot for one day previous to the opening of the Convention. This Committee will receive the Credentials of all Delegates, and give in return their Certificate, which will entitle the Delegates receiving it to admission to the floor of the Convention, and to entertainment by the friends of our cause in Poughkeepsie.

A Circular will shortly be issued by the Poughkeepsie Association, embracing all matters of detail within their province, such as Place of Meeting, Reception of Delegates, and the like, which will render unnecessary many applications for information on the part of those interested in the gathering.

By reason of the change going on in the railroad system of the country, the Lowell Convention, on the suggestion of the Committee on Arrangements in that city, transferred to this Committee the duty of attending this year to the matter of transportation. Considering it of great importance to the success of the Convention, the Committee has devoted much thought and labor to it. But no arrangements have yet been made which can now be announced. Such as are possible will be stated in the forthcoming circular of the Poughkeepsie Association. But the Committee deem it their duty to urge the brethren in all sections of the country to make at once the best arrangements in their power to facilitate the transportation of their delegates over local routes, and to report to us the same as soon as made.

The enclosed blank should be filled out by the Corresponding Secretary, and returned at once, to be embodied in the Annual Report. Heretofore, notwithstanding the request of the Com-

mittee that it be returned at a day specified, at least half of the reports have been received after that date. This negligence has interfered seriously with the detail of arrangements for the Conventions, has injured the Report as a document submitted to the Delegates, and has prevented the Committee from giving to the public such an account of our work and progress for the year as the facts justify. In short, it has annually prejudiced the cause of our Societies.

Blank Credentials are also enclosed.

The following topics, among others, will be submitted for consideration and discussion :

1. *What can the Associations do to counteract the Social Temptations of Young Men?*
2. *The value of Association Bible Classes, and the best methods of conducting them.*
3. *How can the usefulness of State and Provincial Conventions be promoted?*
4. *The efficiency of Personal Visitation and District Conventions in the work of State and Provincial Executive Committees—how can it be increased?*
5. *The work and qualifications of General Secretaries.*
6. *What can the Associations do to destroy the influence of Pernicious Literature?*
7. *The relations of the Association to the Churches—how can they be more firmly cemented?*
8. *Is there danger that the Associations will become the medium of unscriptural teachings, or engage in political controversies? If so, what action is necessary to guard against it?*

Well-known gentlemen will be invited to address the Convention briefly in opening each topic, after which the matter will be open for general discussion.

It is highly important that every Association should be represented by its best men at the approaching Convention. Reports, instructive and stimulating, will be given by brethren of experience from those sections where most progressive work has been accomplished. It has been a year of signal blessing upon many of our Societies. Come to learn what God hath wrought,

to get new faith and zeal in His service, and to carry home with you a rich blessing for yourself and for the brethren who are associated with you in work for Christ among young men.

Fraternally yours,

CEPHAS BRAINERD,
JAMES STOKES, JR.,
TIMOTHY G. SELLEW, JR.,
ROBERT R. MCBURNEY,
EDGAR A. HUTCHINS,
BENJAMIN C. WETMORE,
VERRANUS MORSE,

Executive Committee.

NOTE—The Resolutions of the Conventions require that the right to vote and hold office be confined to members of Evangelical Churches.

The members of the Associations are requested to give particular attention to this Circular, and also to that soon to be issued from Poughkeepsie. It is hoped they will be found to answer fully the questions that are likely to arise in different minds, and that frequent applications by letter to the two Committees will be unnecessary.

Circular of the Poughkeepsie Association.

ROOMS OF THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION,
CORNER OF MAIN AND WASHINGTON STREETS,
POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y., *June 12th, 1878.* }

*To the Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and
British Provinces:*

DEAR BRETHREN:—As you have been already informed by the circular of the Executive Committee, the Eighteenth International Convention of the Young Men's Christian Associations will meet in our city, on Wednesday, July 9th, and continue for five days. We trust that your Association is ready to respond to this call by a delegation of your best workers, and that the power of the Convention in the development of the Associations all over the Continent may be even greater than in any former instance.

Our Reception Committee will meet delegates at the depots and steamboat landing, and escort them to the Association building, where the Committees on Credentials and Entertainment will be in session. The members of the Reception Committee will wear blue badges. If in any case delegates fail to meet this Committee, they can go directly to our building by the street cars.

The Convention will assemble for organization at eleven o'clock in the morning, at the First Methodist Episcopal Church, corner of Mill and Washington Streets, where all the day sessions will be held.

The Welcome Meeting will be held in the Opera House, on Wednesday evening, July 9th, after which the delegates are invited to attend a reception at our Association building.

Our Entertainment Committee have made ample provisions for all *duly accredited delegates* in the houses of our citizens, and we trust that none of the brethren will fail to accept of their hospitality. We feel assured that the presence of so many earnest

Christians in our homes cannot fail to bring us a rich blessing. It will greatly aid our arrangements for entertainment, if each Association will forward a list of its delegates at once to Erskine Uhl, General Secretary of our Association.

Hotel charges to delegates, and friends accompanying them, will be as follows: Morgan House, and Poughkeepsie Hotel, \$2.50 a day, when two persons occupy one room; otherwise, \$3.00. Forbes House, and Northern Hotel, \$2.00 a day. Exchange House, \$1.00 a day.

We have long desired the privilege of welcoming one of these conventions to our city, and we have high hopes of its value and power in aiding us in all our Christian work.

MITCHELL DOWNING,
EDMUND P. PLATT,
J. PARKER HEATH,
ALBERT O. CHENEY,
ANDREW SPERBECK.

Committee of Arrangements.

TRANSPORTATION CIRCULAR

OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE Y. M. C. A., OF THE UNITED STATES AND BRITISH PROVINCES.

After extensive correspondence, and the use of every available resource, the Executive Committee have found it impossible to secure for delegates in all sections of the country such reduction of fares as has been readily granted in previous years.

From many points, we are assured that negotiations for reduction of rates can be more advantageously conducted by brethren in the locality, whence delegates come, than by your Committee in New York. At the close of this Circular, therefore, the names are given of those who, at leading points, are seeking—each in his own city—to make arrangements for the accommodation of delegates. By making prompt application to them, brethren will learn the best rates that have been secured.

The following definite arrangements have been made:

HUDSON RIVER BOATS.—Delegates reaching New York City, on their way to the Convention, can proceed to Poughkeepsie—

At 8.30 A. M., from the foot of Vestry Street, Pier 39, North River, by the steamboats Chauncey Vibbard and Daniel Drew, reaching Poughkeepsie at 1.10 P. M.

At 3½ P. M., from the same Pier, reaching Poughkeepsie, at 8 P. M., by the Mary Powell.

At 5 P. M., from Pier 35, North River, at the foot of Franklin Street, by steamers John L. Hasbrouck and Daniel S. Miller, reaching Poughkeepsie early the following morning.

Tickets from New York to Poughkeepsie, on any of these lines, will be sold to delegates, and their families, on showing their credentials, for seventy-five cents each.

Delegates reaching Albany, N. Y., on their way to the Convention, can proceed to Poughkeepsie,

At 8.30 A. M., reaching Poughkeepsie at 1.15 P. M., by the steamboats Chauncey Vibbard or Daniel Drew.

Tickets from Albany to Poughkeepsie, seventy-five cents each.

POUGHKEEPSIE AND EASTERN RAILROAD.—Delegates can reach Poughkeepsie, direct from Hartford, Conn., by this route. Tickets from Hartford to Poughkeepsie, and return, \$5.00.

WASHINGTON TO NEW YORK,—AND RETURN.—Delegates from Washington, Alexandria, &c., and those arriving at Washington, from the South, will obtain tickets at reduced rates by calling at the Rooms of the Association in that city, corner of Ninth and D. Streets. Tickets good from July 4 to July 18th—inclusive.

NEW ENGLAND AND THE BRITISH PROVINCES.—Mr. L. P. Rowland (Y. M. C. A., cor. Tremont and Elliot Streets, Boston), will perfect arrangements with through lines of railroads and steamboats, by which delegates from New England and the British Provinces can reach New York City at greatly reduced rates of fare. These will be announced in a Circular, soon to be issued by him.

Delegates can also learn of the arrangements made, by prompt correspondence with Messrs. Rowland and C. P. Wellman, Manchester, N. H.; A. J. Howe, Montpelier, Vt.; Alfred Sandham, Montreal, Ca.; or W. H. Hobbs, Portland, Me.; all of whom are acting in concert in this matter.

FROM ST. JOHN, N. B., and ANNAPOLIS, N. S.—The Union line of steamers on the St. John River, from Woodstock and Frederickton, N.B., offer delegates going by their route return tickets, free. The same offer extends to delegates using the steamer between Annapolis, Nova Scotia, and St. John.

The International line of steamers from St. John to Portland or Boston offer delegates passage from St. John, and return, for one dollar more than the single rate. Return passage will be granted on showing certificate of attendance at the Convention.

THE EUROPEAN AND NORTH AMERICAN RAILROAD.—From St. John to Bangor, will give delegates using this road free return passage, on their showing certificate of attendance at Convention.

THE MAINE CENTRAL RAILROAD.—From Bangor to Portland, will also grant to delegates on similar terms, free return passage over its line.

It is recommended that delegates in these cases show their credentials at the time of starting as well as their certificates of attendance on their return.

RHODE ISLAND DELEGATES.—Wishing to go by way of New York City, will

confer with Mr. W. H. Anderson, (Gen. Sec. of Y. M. C. A., 98 Weybosset Street, Providence, R. I.), who, in case as many as twenty-five tickets are wanted, can secure free return passage for delegates via the Stonington line of steamboats.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.—Delegates paying full fare on this road will be granted tickets to return at one-third fare on presenting at the ticket office, Suspension Bridge, certificates to this effect signed by T. J. Wilkie. These certificates will be secured at the Convention in Poughkeepsie from Mr. Wilkie.

The steamer "City of Toronto," running from Toronto, Ont., to Lewiston, will grant free return tickets to delegates on presentation of their certificates at the time they purchase tickets. T. J. Wilkie, Esq., Toronto, Ont., is making arrangements for delegates from or passing through that city, and will respond to all enquiries.

DELEGATES FROM SOUTHERN INDIANA, OHIO AND KENTUCKY.—And all desiring to pass through Cincinnati, can have the benefit of reduced fares from that city to Philadelphia over the Marietta and Cincinnati and the Baltimore and Ohio R. R. Full particulars may be had by addressing,—after June 15—A. C. Scott, Gen. Sec. Y. M. C. A., 200 Vine Street, Cincinnati.

DELEGATES FROM THE SOUTH.—The Southern Railway Security Company offer delegates paying full fare from Augusta, Ga., to Richmond Va., and from Memphis to Bristol, Tenn., return tickets at one-third fare, on presentation of certificate of attendance issued by the Executive Committee.

The following brethren—in addition to those already named in this Circular—are seeking to secure for delegates reduction of rates, and may be applied to by those in their neighborhood, for information on this subject.

J. S. MACLEAN, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

NEWTON FULLER, New London, Conn.

T. A. NELSON, General Secretary, Y. M. C. A., Toledo, Ohio.

F. D. TAYLOR, General Secretary, Y. M. C. A., Detroit, Mich.

LANG SHEAFF, Cleveland, Ohio.

I. G. JENKINS, General Secretary, Y. M. C. A., Buffalo, N. Y.

REV. S. A. TAGGART, Y. M. C. A., Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

W. S. WOOTEN, Indianapolis, Indiana.

B. F. JACOBS, Chicago, Illinois.

A. C. SCOTT, General Secretary Y. M. C. A., Cincinnati, Ohio.

H. L. MCKEE, Selma, Ohio.

M. M. GREENWOOD, New Orleans, Louisiana.

In making arrangements with the companies, the following form of Certificate may be serviceable to brethren conducting the negotiation. This Certificate properly filled out, and signed by the

General Secretary of the Committee, RICHARD C. MORSE, can be given at Poughkeepsio, to delegates entitled to them :

This is to Certify that ——— a duly accredited delegate to the Convention of Young Men's Christian Association of the United States and British Provinces, held in Poughkeepsie, July 9th-14th, 1873, passed from——— to——— by —— Railroad or Steamboat, and is entitled to a return passage——

Signed——— Gen. Sec.

RULES OF THE CONVENTION.

1. The order of each day's proceedings shall be as follows :

Devotional Exercises—Reading of Minutes—Calls for Resolutions, Memorials and Propositions—Reading of Communications—Reports of Standing Committees—Reports of Special Committees—Unfinished Business.

2. Immediately after the organization is completed, the President shall appoint the following Standing Committees, each to consist of seven members :

A Committee on Associations, to which shall be referred all matters touching the Associations in their individual and united action.

A Business Committee, to whom shall be referred all business of a general nature.

A Committee on the Report of the Executive Committee.

A Committee on Public and Devotional Meetings.

But the Convention may refer any business to a Special Committee, or to the Committee of the Whole, at its pleasure.

A Special Committee of three shall be appointed by the President at the opening session, to which all resolutions, memorials and propositions shall be handed, on or before the second day of the session of the Convention, each paper to contain the name of the proposer and the name of the Association he represents : these resolutions to be at once referred to the Committee without reading.

3. After the appointment of the Committees, memorials, resolutions and propositions shall be referred by the President without action or debate to a Standing Committee, unless the Convention shall refer the same to a Select Committee, or to the Committee of the Whole ; and this rule of reference shall apply to all business brought before the Convention, except such as is incidental in its character.

4. The Convention at any time may resolve itself into a Com-

mittee of the Whole, and consider in a general form any proposition or matter appertaining to the Associations, with a view to develop the experience of the Associations and the opinions of Delegates upon the subjects under consideration; and at the close of its discussion thereon, the Committee shall report its conclusions to the Convention for its action; the report to be prepared and submitted for such reference to the Committee of the Whole by the Standing Committee, to whose jurisdiction the matter under discussion relates, unless the Committee of the Whole shall appoint a Special Committee to prepare and submit the report.

5. No Committee shall sit while the Convention is in session, without special permission.

6. All Committees shall be appointed by the Chair, unless otherwise ordered; and shall report matters referred to them, unless otherwise instructed, previous to the last business session of the Convention.

7. All reports of Committees shall be numbered and placed upon a docket, and brought up in regular order in Convention, except such as shall be referred to the Committee of the Whole.

8. No member shall speak more than once on any question, until others who wish have spoken, nor more than five minutes, without unanimous consent; and this rule shall prevail in Committee of the Whole.

9. All motions shall be reduced to writing before they are put to vote.

10. The vote, when desired by five members of different Associations, on any proposition, shall be taken by yeas and nays, and recorded. In such cases, each Association will be entitled to one vote, which shall be cast by a majority of its delegates present.

11. Pending any question, it shall always be in order to move that the debate close, which motion shall be put without discussion in this form: "Shall the question be now put?"

12. The Convention may at any time suspend the rules for a specified object, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

13. The members of the Executive Committee, and the Corresponding Members thereof, shall be entitled to seats in the Convention as Delegates.

14. Members assigned to open topics of discussion will be

limited to fifteen minutes each, and all other speakers on the topics to five minutes each.

15. An Executive Committee, to consist of seven members, shall be appointed by the Convention, to continue in office for three years, and until their successors are appointed, whose duty it shall be to prepare and bring before each Convention business for its consideration; to transact, after the adjournment of such Convention, any business entrusted to its charge; to arrange for transportation, at reduced rates, of persons attending Conventions; and who may, upon an emergency requiring immediate action, adopt such measures as may be necessary, not inconsistent with the action of preceding Conventions, reporting the same to the next succeeding Convention for its approval. The ordinary sessions of the Executive Committee shall be held in the City of New York.

16. Each Convention shall appoint one Corresponding Member from each State, District, Territory and Province, who shall be its local representative, and shall, under the direction and advice of the Executive Committee, communicate with each Association within its respective jurisdiction, and with any general organization thereof; and who shall perform any duty in relation thereto which the Convention or Committee may require.

17. A meeting of the Executive Committee and Corresponding Members, for consultation and to secure united action, shall be held during this session, or immediately on the adjournment thereof; and said Committee and Corresponding Members shall hold at least one other meeting during each year, at such time and place as the Executive Committee may designate; and to secure a full attendance at such meeting, the general organization of each State, Territory and Province is requested to make provision for defraying the traveling expenses of its Corresponding Member to and from the place of meeting.

Proceedings of the Convention.

POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y., July 9, 1873.

FIRST DAY.

THE Eighteenth Annual Convention of the Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces, met in the Washington Street M. E. Church, Rev. Wm. Lloyd, Pastor, at 11 A. M. H. Thane Miller, of Cincinnati, President of the last Convention, called the delegates to order. Rev. W. M. Martin, of Brooklyn, New York, was elected Temporary Secretary.

The Temporary Committee on Credentials, acting under appointment of the Executive Committee of the Convention were: D. C. English, New Brunswick, N. J.; H. V. Pelton, Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and T. J. Wilkie, Toronto, Ont.

"And are we yet Alive," was sung, after which the Convention united with Russell Sturgis, Jr., of Boston, in reciting the Apostle's Creed and the Lord's Prayer.

Rev. Dr. Hawxhurst, of Poughkeepsie, read the First Scripture Lesson from the Fourth Chapter of Nehemiah.

Rev. Dr. Elmendorf, of Poughkeepsie, led in prayer.

The Convention then sang "Welcome days of Solemn Meeting."

The President, H. Thane Miller, delivered an address of welcome to the delegates, as follows:

The work in which we have been engaged, dear brethren, has been wonderful in its objects and wonderful in its accomplishment. A very small number of Associations were represented in 1865. There are now upon the roll 924 Associations. From the small number of delegates who attended the convention in 1865 to the large number of 844 who assembled at Portland, our growth has been a wonderful thing in our eyes, and we exclaim, "What hath God wrought?" "Not unto us, not unto us, but unto thy name, Oh Lord! be all the glory!"

But brethren, while we rejoice in the progress of the past, we have come here to look forward to the future with its responsibilities. I want to leave

one single word with you, which you will find in our second Scripture lesson to be read presently. I want to say this word before it is read, so that it shall find a fixed place in your mind and in your hearts—"STAND." We have a position now fixed by the churches of this land, but in order to maintain that position, dearly beloved, we must first of all stand by our churches and our pastors, upholding them in every possible way, showing that entire deference to them which we heartily feel, and showing to the world that there is nothing dearer to us than the church of the living God, whose agents we are in the work of the Young Men's Christian Associations.

We must stand by our Associations in evil and good report, and by our officers and members. It is not sufficient that the rooms are established and the doors thrown open; you must make it a personal business to invite the young men with whom you come in contact to frequent those rooms, and the strongest invitation you can give is to be very frequently found there yourself by your personal contact with this work. Give your personal presence there for a few minutes in the day or evening, from time to time as you may *make*, not find, opportunity. Stand by the Association, brothers, in upholding the hands of your secretaries. These men were put into their positions because you thought they were the right men to lead in this work. Counsel, sympathize with, encourage them, and in God's name pray for them daily. Thus shall you stand efficiently by the Association which you all so dearly love.

And above everything else, brothers in this Convention, stand very close to JESUS. Stand there by the daily reading and study of God's Word. If there is any subject to which the Christian heart and soul in America needs to be awakened, I believe it is to a more real acquaintance, deeper insight and fervent love for God's Word. It is lamentable to see how that Word is neglected! God help you to stand by Jesus in reading and studying that Word every day. Stand very close to the Master in talking with him in prayer. We believe that God has instituted this means of communion with our Father in Heaven. Oh, friends, take a very tight hold of the hand of Jesus. Lean your head upon His bosom. We need that resting place. There are men all over this land constantly dying, worn out by mental exertion, by excitement, by the very fast way in which we live in this country. Oh, how they and we need a resting place for these heads that are weary and these brains that are over-worked and over-anxious about the things of this life. Friends, stand by Jesus, in sitting right at His feet, looking up into His face, hearing His word, and then stand by Him in your obedience to His teachings. Then will religion prosper among young men in our country, and the great cause of truth which Jesus came into this world to establish will be promoted, and souls shall be saved everlastingly. God help you, then, dearly beloved, to stand fast by the CHURCH, the ASSOCIATION, and by the LORD JESUS CHRIST. Amen.

The Rev. O. H. Hazard, of Poughkeepsie, read the second scriptural lesson from the sixth chapter of Ephesians. The Convention sang—

"Kindred in Christ for His dear sake."

The President then offered prayer, and announced the Convention opened for business.

W. H. Anderson, of Providence, offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That a Committee consisting of one delegate from each State, District, Territory and Province represented, be appointed to nominate permanent officers.

Geo. A. Young, of Hamilton, Ont., offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That a temporary committee on business be appointed, consisting of six members, to whom all matters of business shall be referred until a permanent organization shall have been effected.

W. M. Martin, of Brooklyn, offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the rules of the last Convention be adopted for the government of this Convention till otherwise ordered.

Thomas Marshall, of Philadelphia, offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the members of the press, the pastors of Poughkeepsie, and other clergymen who may be present, as well as all members of Associations not regularly accredited as delegates, be constituted corresponding members of this Convention.

The following were appointed as the Committee on Permanent Organization:

W. H. ANDERSON, Providence, R. I.
M. D. CROSS, Selma, Ala.
W. E. BENHAM, Meriden, Conn.
G. A. HALL, Washington, D. C.
J. P. VERDERY, Augusta, Ga.
L. W. BRADEN, Indianapolis, Ind.
S. J. GOULD, Lewiston, Me.
J. A. BOLGIANO, Baltimore, Md.
RUSSELL STURGIS, Jr., Boston, Mass.
T. D. TAYLOR, Detroit, Mich.
ROBERT SMITH, St. Paul, Minn.
R. WEIDENSALL, Omaha, Neb.
M. B. CRITCHETT, Concord, N. H.

C. B. MORRIS, Montclair, N. J.
ERSKINE UHL, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
W. J. COOKE, Cleveland, O.
S. A. TAGGART, Pittsburgh, Pa.
A. J. HOWE, Montpelier, Vt.
J. D. DREHER, Salem, Va.
E. T. C. KNOWLES, St. John, N. B.
J. H. KENT, Truro, N. S.
SHERIFF E. C. THOMAS, Hamilton, Ont.
W. W. ANDERSON, Charlottetown, P. E. I.

The following were appointed as the Temporary Business Committee:

GEO. A. YOUNG, Hamilton, Ontario.
THOMAS MARSHALL, Philadelphia.
J. H. FRANKLIN, Selma, Ala.
H. P. ADAMS, Dayton, Ohio.

CHAS. M. BAILEY, Winthrop, Mass.
M. A. BULLOCK, Olivet College, Michigan.

The Committees on Permanent Organization and Business were permitted to retire.

The Convention then united in devotional exercises until the Committees reported.

The Committee on Permanent Organization reported as follows—

President.

H. K. PORTER, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Vice-Presidents.

M. S. CROSBY, Grand Rapids, Mich.	L. W. MUNHALL, Indianapolis, Ind.
WM. H. HORNER, Baltimore, Md.	Rev. H. A. SPENCER, Montpelier, Vt.
Sheriff E. C. THOMAS, Hamilton, Ont.	MITCHELL DOWNING, Po'keepsie.
JAMES W. LAPSLEY, Selma, Ala.	ROBERT SMITH, St. Paul, Minn.
JULIUS D. DREHER, Salem, Va.	W. W. ANDERSON, Charlottetown,
Gen. O. O. HOWARD, Washington, D.C.	Prince Edward's Island.
R. K. REMINGTON, Fall River, Mass.	*M. H. HODDER, London, England.
CHAS. F. DOUGLASS, Toledo, Ohio.	

Secretaries.

† H. M. MOORE, Somerville, Mass. S. S. BATES, Guelph, Ont.
J. E. CARPENTER, Washington, D. C.

The report was adopted.

Russell Sturgis, Jr., of Boston; W. H. Anderson, of Providence; and J. H. Cheever, of Cincinnati, were appointed a Special Committee to conduct the President elect to his seat.

The retiring President, H. Thane Miller, then introduced President Porter to the Convention in a short address, as follows:

I have the honor of presenting to you H. K. Porter, President of the Association in Pittsburgh, Pa., as your new President. In introducing him to you, and in inducting into this office my dear brother, I believe that the Convention have placed him in a position of the greatest responsibility and of the highest honor. This body represents the working Christian men of all the Evangelical denominations in the land. It is the organization that embraces energy, talent and tact from all the Churches; and, my dear brother, when such men call you to one of the highest positions in their gift, they place upon you an honor only second to that which you receive from our dear Saviour; and they do it in His name. May God bless you! May He preside through you! making you His instrument, as the presiding officer of the Eighteenth International Convention of the Young Men's Christian Association of the United States and British Provinces.

Mr. Porter responded as follows:

I receive, my dear brother, this kind word of introduction with a feeling of personal gratitude and love to you; and I receive this honor at your hands, my

* Mr. Hodder's name was subsequently added to the list of Vice-Presidents by a riding vote of the Convention.

† Mr. Moore, not being present, Mr. Jas. Buchanan, of Trenton, N. J., was subsequently chosen *pro tem*. As he was obliged to leave town Mr. J. V. L. Graham, of Baltimore, Md., was, on Thursday, chosen permanent Secretary of the Convention.

Christian brothers, thankful to you for your kindness, but feeling, as I stand here now, the responsibility far more than the honor which you have placed upon me. I come with the utmost diffidence to the task you have imposed, but with the simple desire—as our brother expressed it in his prayer, when this Committee went out to consult together in regard to their report—the simple desire that I may be used here of God. And this thought and wish he has just uttered, I trust and hope may be adopted by all of us throughout this Convention. “May God preside here!” May He inspire us with wise counsels, and breathe upon us of His own spirit, that we may every one stand fast in the knowledge of God and in the desire to do His will. Let us depend upon Christ, feeling the tie of Christian love that binds us together in Him, and taking as our motto those words of the Apostle: “Be kind to one another, tender hearted, forgiving one another even as God for Christ’s sake has forgiven us.” Let us have charity. This thought comes home to me especially and I hope you will exercise that Christian virtue towards me as I preside over your Convention. I ask you to help me. I am here only to execute your will with impartiality, looking unto God for His blessing.

And now, as we begin our deliberations this bright and beautiful day, but with the shadow of the providence of God resting upon our hearts; as we come into sympathy with one called away to look upon the remains of a loved one; let us come very humbly, feeling every one that we have but a little time here, and that we must work while the day lasts, for the night cometh when no man can work.

The Temporary Business Committee, through the Chairman, Geo. H. Young, offered the following report, which was adopted:

Devotional meeting in the Chapel of this Church, at 2:30 P.M.; led by Rev. G. A. Hall, of Washington, D.C.

Convention to assemble at 3 P.M.

Devotional Exercises for quarter of an hour.

Reading of Minutes—Morning Session.

Calls for Resolutions, Memorials and Propositions.

Reading of the Annual Report of the Executive Committee by the Chairman, Mr. Cephas Brainerd.

Discussion on Topic No. 5: “The work and qualifications of General Secretaries,” to be opened by T. J. Wilkie, Toronto—fifteen minutes, to be followed for one hour by five minute addresses from Delegates.

Reports of Committees.

On motion, adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION.—FIRST DAY.

The Convention assembled at 3 P. M., President H. K. Porter in the Chair.

The proceedings were opened with prayer by F. D. Taylor, of Detroit, Michigan.

“O, to Grace how great a debtor,”

was sung.

The Minutes of the Morning Session were read and approved. The President then and subsequently announced the following Committees :

On Business.

GEO. A. YOUNG, Hamilton, Ont.,
THOS. MARSHALL, Philadelphia,
C. M. BAILEY, Winthrop, Me.
H. P. ADAMS, Dayton, O.,
T. W. CHACE, Providence, R. I.,
MOSES SCHOONMAKER, Walden, N. Y.,
T. McC. STEWART, Howard University, Washington, D. C.

On Executive Committee's Report.

F. D. TAYLOR, Detroit, Mich.,
RUSSELL STURGIS, Jr., Boston, Mass.,
J. H. CHEEVER, Cincinnati, O.,
M. B. CRITCHETT, Concord, N. H.,
W. E. BENHAM, Meriden, Conn.,
C. B. MORRIS, Montclair, N. J.,
E. T. C. KNOWLES, St. John, N. B.

On Credentials.

D. C. ENGLISH, New Brunswick, N. J.
H. V. PELTON, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.,
T. J. WILKIE, Toronto, Ont.

On Devotional and Open-Air Meetings.

R. K. REMINGTON, Fall River, Mass.,
GEORGE A. HALL, Washington, D. C.,
L. P. ROWLAND, Boston, Mass.,
J. P. VENDERY, Augusta, Ga.,
J. D. MICHAEL, Baltimore, Md.,
R. WEIDENSALL, Omaha, Neb.,
ROBERT SMITH, St. Paul, Minn.

On Associations.

C. M. WILCOX, New London, Conn.,
A. J. HOWE, Montpelier, Vt.,
I. G. JENKINS, Buffalo, N. Y.,
T. C. CROCKER, Westerly, R. I.,
I. C. SEELEY, Minneapolis, Minn.,
W. ROCHE, Jr., Halifax, N. S.,
J. A. CASE, Springfield, Mass.

On Resolutions.

N. D. CROSS, Selma, Ala.,
W. M. MARTIN, Brooklyn, N. Y.,
H. H. OTTO, Williamsport, Pa.

The officers elect were requested to take their places upon the platform, and the President introduced M. S. Crosby, First Vice-President, who took the Chair. James Buchanan was elected Secretary, *pro tem*.

Cephus Brainerd, Chairman of the Executive Committee, then read their Annual Report, and also a summary of the Treasurer's Report, and referred to the fact that a percentage of the profits from the sale of the "Songs of Devotion," had been allowed to the Executive Committee by the editor and compiler of the book, amounting in the past two years to \$600.

At the request of Mr. Brainerd, George A. Young, of Ontario, read a portion of his report as Corresponding Member of the Committee.

Robert Weidensall, of Omaha, Neb., read his report as Special Agent of the Executive Committee to visit and organize Associations in the West.

The Convention then united in singing

' One there is above all others.'

Richard C. Morse then read his report as General Secretary of the Executive Committee. (For all the above Reports see Appendix.)

Mr. Brainerd moved that the reports read be referred to the Committee on the Report of the Executive Committee. Carried.

Mr. Brainerd moved that Mr. M. H. Hodder, of London, be admitted to the floor as a delegate from Great Britain and Ireland. Mr. D. W. Glass, of Baltimore, added as an amendment that "his name be placed on the list of Vice-Presidents." The motion as amended was adopted by a rising vote. The Convention singing as they rose,

"Blest be the Tie that Binds our Hearts in Christian Love."

Mr. Hodder made a suitable acknowledgment of the honor, and deferred a formal address to another occasion.

Mr. W. H. Anderson moved that the various committees be allowed to hold meetings during the sessions of to-day. Adopted.

The Convention then sang

"Jesus keep me near the Cross."

The fifth topic: "*Work and Qualifications of General Secretaries*," was then opened by T. J. Wilkie, General Secretary of the Association in Toronto, Can., as follows:

Mr. President and Christian Brethren:—I have been privileged to spend the past three days (July 6-8) in conference with nearly thirty brother Secretaries, upon the work committed to us. The scope of the topic we are now discussing will appear from the list of subjects brought before this conference. A thoughtful paper on each of the following themes was read and discussed:

1st Paper.—The varied name, origin and duties of the General Secretary, and his relation to the work of the Associations.

2d Paper.—The Secretary largely responsible for the successful management and efficiency of the Association.

3d Paper.—"Personal habits and requisite qualifications of the General Secretary."

4th Paper.—"Relation of the Secretary to the Board of Directors, and officers of the Association."

5th Paper.—Relation of the Secretary to the Committees of the Association. Should he be a member of every Committee?

6th Paper.—The Secretary in his relation to and in personal conversation with the membership, (outside of committees,) and with strangers.

7th Paper.—"The Secretary in the Community at large—his relation to Ministers, Churches, Mission Work, Secular Organizations and Men of Business."

8th Paper.—How may the Secretary make all his work bend to the religious improvement of those he comes in contact with, especially young men?

9th Paper.—The relation of the Secretary to the religious work of the Association in its rooms.

10th Paper.—"How should the field work of the Association in large cities be prosecuted?"

11th Paper.—"How can the Associations in our larger cities make their power felt in suburban communities?"

12th Paper.—The work of the State Secretary or Agent ; its importance, and how it may be most successfully prosecuted.

These papers and the discussions that followed traversed the wide field of the Work and Qualifications of a General Secretary. The one feeling prevalent among the brethren was, that the standard of what this office should be, was lifted very high—so high, indeed, that we may ever strive to attain, and yet never reach it.

“The Work of the Secretary” is the first part of our topic. Let us go with him to his office. He should be there punctually at the stated time. His *correspondence* is first to be carefully read.

There are many things growing out of it which will need attention. A father writes asking the Secretary to seek out a son who may be in the city, and try to bring him within the influence of the Association ; a mother on the other side of the sea inquires about an erring son. Another letter contains money, coupled with a request to look up and care for some person who cannot be trusted with what is cheerfully expended for his benefit. Letters being answered, the Secretary turns to personal conversation. Many call upon him, some seeking boarding houses, others employment. Very few Associations have a distinct employment bureau, with an agent always on hand. The principal part of the work, therefore, must be done by the Secretary. Several calls come through the day for that purpose, but more frequently is he asked to sit and listen to tales of sorrow from those who, perhaps, have brought the mischief upon themselves. It is our duty to take these brethren by the hand and to speak to them gently, kindly and lovingly, pointing them to the Saviour whom we love, and then, on our knees, in the quiet of our offices, commending them to Him.

Attention at first to the temporal wants of those we seek to benefit, is wise. Feed and clothe them, that they may listen more willingly to your words of religious counsel, but in all cases the Secretary should aim to combine the two methods of help. Never let an opportunity slip of speaking of the important topic of the soul's salvation.

The Secretary is, *ex-officio*, a member of all the committees. He is not to take a prominent part in the talk and work of the committees, but he should be there as a book of reference, knowing what the Association is doing, and seeking to unobtrusively guide and direct activity into the proper channels.

The Secretary's relation to the Board of Directors is, also, very important. He should be on the alert to bring before their body the topics desired for their consideration. These Boards of Directors and Managers are made up of the best business men of the community, and they want the work of the Association done as well as if it were performed in their own warehouses and counting rooms. The Secretary should be constantly planning *new forms and schemes of work for the members*. They are young men, and they like novelty and variety. It is our duty to try and bring new phases of work before them ; we must be servants always, “all things to all men,” so that we may by all means win some to the Lord Jesus.

The qualifications of a Secretary.—First of all he should be a man of vital piety. We want men filled with the love of Christ, and consecrated as leaders in the work of rescuing young men. We want men of *common sense* ; for the Secretary comes in contact with every kind of cunning, fraud and hypocrisy. The Association is the resort of needy spendthrifts and of bold impostors. The Secretary should be able to read character well and detect the impostor.

The more *education* the Secretary has the better. A collegiate training will fit him the better for his work. To reach all young men is our aim. Good *executive ability* is also needed to control and direct the affairs of the Associations.

Russell Sturgis, Jr., asked how far the General Secretary is expected to go out of his city visiting Associations, Conventions, &c.

S. A. Taggart, State Secretary of Pennsylvania, replied that the Secretary ought to be a man magnetic in himself, and inspired by the spirit of his Master to infuse the same life he has within his own heart into the hearts of others. He often has opportunity to do this in visitations of the sort just described.

Gen. O. O. Howard : I have noticed our Secretary very closely for several years, and my impression is that no man can sit in his office and inspire others, who has not gone outside of that office in active work.

Geo. W. Cobb, Railroad Secretary in Cleveland, Ohio, said : I do not believe any secretary in the United States can sit in a little office six days and keep his 500 members all aglow. I never go away from my post of duty without being sure that I have one or two good men to stand in my place. I return with quickening words and incidents of cheer to all who are working with me at home.

Yates Hickey, Pittsburgh, Pa. : The pastor succeeds best who gets the most work out of his people. On the same principle a secretary must go abroad to get the fire before he is able to give it to others. He should be at home enough to attend to his duties, and go abroad enough to get into the spirit of his work.

Russell Sturgis, Jr. : I want an answer from a local secretary.

T. J. Wilkie, Secretary in Toronto, Ontario, responded :

I believe that every Secretary should arrange the work, and then go to his young men, and organize them to do it. But do not go continually with them, thus leading them to throw on you the responsibility of the work.

W. H. Anderson, Secretary in Providence, R. I. :

No one can lay down an undeviating rule in this matter. The Secretary should be a man able to comprehend the needs of his Association. Let him be out of the rooms and in the rooms as much as he can. His place, however, is chiefly in the rooms. If he makes these popular, ministers will come in ; friends of the young men, people from the country, will frequent them. He should be there to meet them. Do not jump at a man the moment he comes into the rooms. I meet a good many men several times before saying anything about religion.

The Secretary must have faith in his work, and a desire to be in sympathy with every man. And when with faith and prayer he infuses that enthusiasm into the community, he will make the society powerful for good.

Thomas McCune, Scranton, Pa. :

We have had a little experience in our city. A secretary came there two years ago, full of zeal and of the spirit. He tried for two years to be "out of his office and in it at the same time." At last he gave notice to the Board of Managers that if the Directors and Members of the Association would work with him and do their duty, he would go on. He tried to do both parts of this work for half a year, and then resigned. He found he could not be out of his office and in it too.

L. P. Rowland, Boston, Mass. :

Any man who has been at this work of a general secretary finds a great many difficulties. One class of men want him to do outside work—calling in young men, raising money, etc. This laying upon the Secretary the duty of raising money will either drive some away from the Association, or drive the office out of existence. I have some experience in this matter. Some say, "You are the best man to raise the money—you have the experience and all the facts before you. You must do it." It may be a very pleasant duty to go and call on the noble men of the Association, but while you are out collecting, the Association is suffering from the absence of the man who will look out for the young men who come in to seek direction and counsel.

Robert Smith, St. Paul, Minn.,

The work differs greatly in different places. In St. Paul, the relief work among the poor occupies most of our Secretary's time, and we help him by attending to the meetings on the levee, and to other work calling for laborers.

The Convention sang—

"My faith looks up to Thee."

President Porter resumed the Chair.

W. H. Anderson, of Providence, R. I., offered a resolution endorsing the *Illustrated Christian Weekly*. It was referred to the Committee on the Executive Committee's Report.

The Chairman of the Committee on Business reported the following order of exercises :

Welcome Meeting in the Opera House, commencing at 7.45 P.M. Addresses of welcome by Mitchell Downing, President Poughkeepsie Association.

Mayor Eastman on the part of the City, Rev. Dr. Wheeler, on the part of the Churches of Poughkeepsie, and a welcome letter from Governor J. A. Dix.

Responses by H. K. Porter, President of Convention, and H. Thane Miller, of Cincinnati.

Welcome Meeting will close at 9 P. M., when delegates are invited to the Association Rooms, when a reception will be tendered them by the Poughkeepsie Association. A delegate's ticket will admit him and any friend accompanying him.

MORNING SESSION.—Thursday.—Devotional exercises at 9 A. M., in this Church, led by T. A. Nelson, Toledo, O. At 9.30 A. M. the Convention will come to order. Reading of Minutes; Calls for Resolutions, Memorials, Proposals; Reading of Communications.

10 A. M. Topic No. 4 to be introduced by R. K. Remington, Fall River, Mass., in an opening address of fifteen minutes. A paper will then be read by Rev. S. A. Taggart, State Secretary of Pennsylvania, on "A State Secretary, his Field and Duties," to be followed by five minute addresses till 11 o'clock, when Topic No. 3 will be introduced by T. A. Nelson, in an address of ten minutes, followed by five minute addresses from delegates. Report of Business Committee.

After singing—

"Praise God from whom all blessings flow,"

On motion, the Convention adjourned.

WELCOME MEETING.

The welcome meeting was held in the Collingwood Opera House on the evening of July 9th, beginning at a quarter of eight o'clock. The stage had been handsomely decorated with flowers and flags for the occasion. Mitchell Downing, President of the Poughkeepsie Association, occupied the chair.

The exercises of the evening were opened by an Anthem of Welcome, sung by a chorus of the Van Vliet Double Quartette Club, of Poughkeepsie. The Rev. Dr. Elmendorf read some selections from the Bible. Rev. W. H. Wines offered prayer. The hymn

"Onward, Christian Soldiers"

was sung, and President Downing, on behalf of the Poughkeepsie Association, addressed words of welcome to the delegates.

It is with mingled emotions of pride and pleasure that in behalf of the Poughkeepsie Association I extend to you delegates to this 18th Annual International Convention of the Y. M. C. A. of the U. S. and British Provinces a most cordial welcome. The members of our Association feel a gratification and pride in your coming among us, such as only co workers in a common field of labor can manifest. We have looked forward through these past months with high anticipations. In former years our rooms were not such as would make a comfortable home for the Convention. But now, just one year after entering our own building, which is a monument of the energy and kindness of our members and friends, we are glad, indeed, to throw it all open for your use. And while we earnestly desire and pray that this Convention may render even more glorious service to all our societies than any of its predecessors, you will not count us selfish, when we say, that we hope you bring and will leave behind

you, under God, a special and rich blessing for ourselves. For though the hand of God has been most graciously extended to us in the success of our undertaking and in raising up for us so many influential friends, we feel deeply the need of greater vitality in our spiritual work. We wish to reach, with the saving influences of the Gospel, the young men who frequent evil resorts in our city. We ask your prayers and efforts, beloved brethren, that these days of the Convention may be memorable for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and the quickening of all our members to new activity in the blessed work and service of the Lord.

Mr. Downing then read the following letter from Governor Dix:

SEAFIELD, WEST HAMPTON, N. Y., *July 7.*

DEAR SIR:—I regret exceedingly that I am unable to accept your kind invitation to be present at the Annual International Convention of the Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces, and at the Welcome Meeting to be held at Poughkeepsie on the 9th inst.

It would give me sincere pleasure, if it were in my power, to testify by my presence my high appreciation of the great good your noble institution is accomplishing, and to express my earnest hope that its efforts to give a better direction to the youthful activity and talent of the age may be crowned with the success it so richly deserves.

I am, my dear Sir,

Very truly yours,

JOHN A. DIX.

MITCHELL DOWNING, Esq., Pres.

The Chairman, in the unexpected absence of Mayor Eastman: I will call upon one of the first Presidents of our Association. John I. Platt, to speak as the representative of our City.

Mr. Platt said:

MR. PRESIDENT AND BROTHERS—I know of but one reason why it is proper that I should be called upon to bid you welcome, and that is, I am glad to see you; and if that were the reason there are certainly a great many whom it would be just as appropriate to call upon, for we are all glad to see you. You have been welcomed on the part of the Association. One of our pastors is to follow me, and will welcome you on behalf of the Churches. I have been asked to bid you welcome on behalf of our citizens, and I do so the more gladly because one of the great offices of the Young Men's Christian Association, almost equal to the office which it performs in the religious world, is to educate a higher and better class of Christian citizens. I am glad to see you all as representatives of the active, energetic Christian young men of the country. If there is anything which rivals in importance the claim of the Church, it is the claim of the State; if there is any call which is almost as loud to us as the call to service in the cause of our Master and Lord, it is the call to serve in our civil and political capacity as citizens, and it is the province of Christianity to fit us for business and politics as well as for religion. Young men, as they step forth into life are called upon in every direction to spend their energies in behalf of the people; but in countries governed as are our own land and her Majesty's dominions, by the people, there is no call so loud as that for honest and upright citizens—honest and upright politicians. There have been sneers about "Christian statemanship," but for my part I have no sympathy with those that

have sneered, and nothing but contempt for the sentiment of sneering. If there has been any fault, it has been that the standard was not high enough. It is our place to lift it higher, and to make our lives square with it.

It is the chief glory of the Christians of the present day, and your Associations have contributed to that as much as any other agency, that we are beginning to understand that our Christianity must go into our life, that we must carry it to the counter and the ballot-box, and put it into everything we do. This religion of Christ has been recommended to us as a preparation for death and the world to come. I count it as all and equally important to find it a preparation for life and the world that is.

Therefore I am glad to bid you welcome not only to our Association and to our Churches, but, as a citizen, to our hearts and homes. I do so in the hope that we shall all unite together to lift this standard of Christian citizenship higher; that you will inspire us in Poughkeepsie with more of this spirit, so that we shall be noted abroad as much for the integrity and honest Christianity of our people, as we have been noted for the enterprise and beauty of our city.

And I close with this sentiment, that we may go on in this work of imbuing men's thoughts and hearts with Christianity in all the duties of life, until Christian integrity shall be recognized as the qualification for statesmanship, and until righteousness shall rule even in high places, and He, who hath wrought this, shall reign.

Rev. Dr. Wheeler then spoke as follows :

Soldiers and friends of the Lord Jesus, vanguard of the American Church, the Christian ministers and churches of Poughkeepsie bid you welcome. From your many homes far away and widely apart, from crowded mart and secluded retreats, we welcome you to our hearts and homes. We welcome you as co-laborers in the many ripening fields of Christian activity. We do not know your denominational name; we do not choose to ask it, so that you love that name which is above every name, Jesus Christ, in whom we have redemption through His blood, even the forgiveness of our sins.

We greet you as the representatives of those who conduct the aggressive movements of the Church against the dominion of sin. We are glad to find in you enthusiasm of youth, strength of manhood, loyalty of affection and fervor of zeal; all consecrated to such grand and glorious purposes. We are with you heart and hand; one with you in all your interests and hopes; rejoicing in your successes and in the inspiration of hope and courage that leads you on to larger and higher results.

Let me press upon you, dear friends, the importance of a thoroughly Christian life; yourselves so magnetized by the presence of the living Lord, that each one of you shall be an incarnation of the truth, and your several Associations bodies of light and centres of love. When the now glorified Tyng was passing through the shadows, he said to his father: "Father, stand up for Jesus." A little further on, he said again: "Father, stand up in Jesus." You have caught the first utterance, and emblazoned it upon your standards. We look to you that this banner be carried to every island and continent: but we would remind you that the standing up *for* Jesus can only be effectual and mighty as each one of you for himself stands complete *in* the Son of God and the Son of Man.

And now, Mr. Chairman, from me, in behalf of the pastors and churches of the city, accept once more our welcome and this right hand as a pledge of our

Christian fellowship and love, and may God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit bless and guide you in all your stay, and make you a blessing to all. Amen.

President H. K. Porter, on behalf of the Convention, responded as follows:

MR. PRESIDENT:—As the official representative of the Associations gathered here by their representatives, I have the honor to receive in their behalf these words of welcome, and in their behalf to return to you, Mr. President, and to your Association; to you, also, who have cordially extended a welcome to us on behalf of the churches; to you, sir, who have so well spoken for the citizens of Poughkeepsie, our very heartfelt thanks. In doing so I simply express the thought in the mind and heart of every one who has listened to your grateful words of kindly welcome.

Ladies and gentlemen, citizens and friends, we have stopped here for a while in this busy tarrying place, where we are wont to stay but a moment, as we are hurried through on errands of business. We have come from all parts of this land and the Dominion of Canada, to lay aside for a season our business cares, forgetting them as much as possible, and seeking to confer with you about things of highest concern—to talk (as in that wonderful conversation on the mountain between Jesus and Moses and Elias, when they spoke of His decease that was then about to be accomplished at Jerusalem,) and to know what the meaning of that event is to us and for us.

I need not speak of all the business, trade and commerce which pass by your door. We have not been drawn here by that, nor by the beauty of the river, much as we have enjoyed it. We have come not as tourists or pleasure seekers, not as business men or social friends, but as those who bear the name of Christ, and who have been entrusted by Him with special duties. It is because you receive us out of love for our Master, that we accept this welcome in the fullness of cordiality with which you have offered it.

We desire and pray that, as we remain here in the city, Christ may come and take possession of our hearts, so that every one shall feel that if there be anything to consecrate,—if there be anything of earnestness, of real manhood and womanhood, anything that we can bring to Him, we shall bring it. And we ask, dear friends, that we may have, not merely the kind reception that your words and open-handed hospitality indicate, but your sympathies in the deliberations of this Convention. Remember that the doors are not shut. You will be welcomed at all the sessions. On many former occasions Christian ladies have been sorry, after the Convention had closed, that they did not understand the invitation given at the beginning to come to the sessions during the day as well as in the evening.

We invite to a place in this good work of the Association every one who loves the Lord Jesus Christ. It is not to assert for ourselves a special consecration, that we have come here as representatives of the Associations of the land, nor do we suppose either that all of the active Christians in this country are represented among us, or that the best of Christian work is done here; but we come simply because we believe there is a special work that must be done, and that God will hold us accountable for doing. It is for this reason that we meet in this convention, and that every one of us here to-night feels he is called upon to labor in this field of Christian effort.

H. Thane Miller, of Cincinnati, said he was glad to be welcomed by the Association, the churches and the citizens, but that was only a lot of men telling a lot of other men they were glad to see them, and he wanted some other information. He wanted to know what the ladies thought about it. He continued in a humorous strain, alluding to the good effect the ladies of a place sometimes produced upon the delegates to these conventions. One thought, however, was supreme in the minds of all, and that was the desire to win souls for Jesus. He felt drawn to Poughkeepsie, for a dear sister had spent years here, and the name of the city had become a household word in the family. He had but one wish for all the people of the city—that they would love and rejoice in the Lord Jesus Christ.

By request, Mr. Miller sang two verses of the hymn,

“Reach me thy hand,”

after which the audience joined in singing,

“Jesus shall reign,”

and the benediction was pronounced by Rev. P. R. Hawxhurst, D. D.

Delegates and those entertaining them, then proceeded to the Association Building, where a reception was given by the members, assisted by ladies. Refreshments were served, and all enjoyed an hour of pleasant social intercourse.

SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.—JULY 10TH, 1873.

The Convention assembled at 9.30 A.M., devotional exercises, led by G. W. Cobb, of Cleveland, preceding the Business Session. On account of the absence of the Secretary, H. M. Moore, R. R. McBurney moved that the Business Committee be requested to nominate a person to act as Permanent Secretary. Carried.

The order being memorials, communications, resolutions, etc., the following telegram was read :

NEWARK, N. J., July 9, 1873.

To President of International Convention Y. M. C. A.—

The German Young Men's Christian Association of Newark, in meeting assembled, send their heartfelt greeting to their co-workers for Jesus. God bless you all. Remember us in your deliberations.

LEO. AIGELTINGER

The hymn,

"Ye Christian Heralds"

was sung.

A motion was made that the State Executive Committee of Massachusetts be admitted as full delegates to this Convention. Objection being made on the ground that the basis of representation would only allow of their being admitted as corresponding members, the matter was on motion of F. D. Taylor, of Detroit, Mich., referred to the Business Committee.

Rev. F. A. Fernley, of Philadelphia, offered the following:

Resolved,—That there be a Special Committee of three appointed to inquire into the expediency of holding a world's Convention of Y. M. C. Associations at Philadelphia during the Centennial Celebration in the months of June and July, 1876.

Referred, under the rule, to the Committee on Resolutions.

Mr. J. V. L. Graham, of Baltimore, Md., was nominated by the Business Committee and elected Permanent Secretary, in place of Mr. Moore, who was still absent.

Mr. C. L. Brooks, of South Deerfield, Mass., moved that the telegram from the German Association of Newark, N. J., be answered by the Secretary of the Convention. Carried.

Mr. R. R. McBurney, of New York, moved that the committees be granted leave to retire during the sessions of the Convention.

J. C. Emory moved as a substitute that the fifth rule of the Convention, forbidding any committee to sit during the sessions of the Convention, without special permission, be stricken out. Lost.

The motion of Mr. McBurney was lost.

The chairman of the Committee on Credentials, D. C. English, asked leave to retire. Not granted.

The hymn,

"Christ for the World,"

was sung, after which

R. K. Remington, of Fall River, Mass., Chairman of the Ex-

cutive Committee of that State, opened the discussion on the fourth topic, viz.: *The efficiency of Personal Visitation and District Conventions in the work of State and Provincial Executive Committees—how can it be increased?*" He spoke as follows:

MR. PRESIDENT AND FRIENDS OF THE ASSOCIATION: Let me say a word, in opening, of our practical experience in this branch of the work in Massachusetts. In Fall River, last autumn, the State Convention appointed a Committee to visit the Associations. We came together, and after prayer and reflection, adopted a plan of such visitation. Members of the Committee have visited some forty different cities and towns of our State, holding meetings of two or three days in each place. The Associations and the churches have been quickened, and by God's blessing on our feeble efforts, souls have been saved. The Executive Committee of the State should certainly be a committee of efficiency. The question is asked—How shall this efficiency be increased? First of all, put thorough men on this Committee—men wide awake in their business, in the Church of Jesus Christ and in the Association to which they belong; men who are willing to labor, in season and out of season, for the extension of the Redeemer's kingdom. Keep off this Executive Committee men who delight to hold a high position and do as little work as possible. There are many who want positions, who are very glad to see their names in the newspapers, hoping thereby to get glory to themselves, but who do nothing. I bless God that in the appointment of the Committee in the old Bay State there was not a single individual of that character. Our object was to visit the Associations of Massachusetts, and thereby to stir up the brethren to greater effort in the salvation of souls. And after much reflection, consideration and prayer, we started out upon the work. The whole Committee gave their time and attention to the subject—with one exception. Brother Sturgis, who labored with us at the commencement, was called away and denied the privilege. We missed him very much; but God blessed his efforts in another direction. The other members of the Committee went forth in the Master's name, and in the various places which they visited, great interest was manifested.

Now we feel that this is the great work of the different State Executive Committees. Every man on that Committee was willing to undergo self-denial in order that the work should be accomplished. All gave the time, traveling hundreds and thousands of miles in order to win souls for Christ. The Church has need of organized bands of men and women to extend the Redeemer's kingdom. It is the work of the Executive Committee of every State and the members of the Association to sustain the Church in this work.

When the Executive Committee is appointed, it is their duty, first of all, to say, "Lord, what wilt thou have us to do?" When God opens the way they should make it their business to go and do the work. There are hundreds of souls rejoicing in the Lord Jesus Christ in consequence of the labors of our Executive Committee. There are pastors on this floor to-day who feel that men and women have been added to their churches in consequence of the personal visitation of the Executive Committee.

I want to say to the business men here, make self denials for Christ. Make them in regard to the Church, make them in your relations to the Y. M. C. Associations. Form a plan for weeks and months ahead for this purpose. Don't feel that business is first of all, and Jesus Christ and the salvation of souls secondary to everything else. I believe I have as much business to attend

to as any person on the floor of this house to-day. I thought in the beginning of the season I could not give up the time, but, with God's blessing, I arranged it and gave many successive days to the service of the Master, and other men on that Committee have given as much time, traveling at their own expense, and God has blessed them. In regard to District Conventions. Hold them often. We have attempted in Fall River to have some of these social gatherings. Some ten or twenty live men get together. Dead ones we don't want. From handshaking, affectionate intercourse, there come stronger union and fellowship. If we thus come often together there will be no questions asked in these larger Conventions about the efficiency of the State Executive Committees.

After the singing of the hymn,

"Awake my soul in joyful lays,"

Rev. S. A. Taggart, State Secretary of Pennsylvania, read a paper entitled

A STATE SECRETARY, HIS FIELD AND DUTIES.

This paper is not intended to be exhaustive, and is mainly suggested by an experience of two years in the State of Pennsylvania. At each annual State Convention an Executive Committee, consisting at present of fourteen members, is chosen, to whom is entrusted the responsibility of prosecuting the work of the State.

Each member of the Committee is assigned the oversight of a number of counties (constituting his district), in one of which he resides. The members are usually men of business, and burdened with cares that prevent them from giving it continued attention; and hence they choose an Executive officer, called State Secretary, to whom they intrust the execution of any of its details they may determine upon, and who is expected to give his whole time and attention to the duties to which they have called him.

At some point in the State the Committee hold three meetings during the year—one previous to the Annual Convention, and the others in the months of May and November; at which times verbal or written reports are given by the Secretary, and plans are discussed and matured for the future.

The State Secretary will find growing out of his position a multiplicity of duties, which may be classed under a few general heads. The first, but by no means greatest, is that of

CORRESPONDENCE.—This consists in the gathering of Statistics from each of the Associations at least once during the year; their arrangement in a tabular statement, to be printed in the Annual State Report. He will also furnish to each Association copies of this report yearly, apportioned to each organization according to the number of members. He will also furnish them documents at such times and in such quantities as he may think most suitable. He will keep each member of the Executive Committee posted as to times and places of meeting, and maintain with them all other correspondence that may seem necessary. He will also find many letters of inquiry as to the object of Associations, and how they are to be organized, addressed to him; and also numerous letters upon every phase of the work, and from all classes of people. These he is to answer in such a way as will promote the best interest of the cause. In the arrangements for public or private meetings he will find occa-

sion to send many letters, by circulars, or otherwise, explaining their nature and object, and stating time and place of meeting. This should be done clearly and tersely, so that no misunderstanding may arise in the mind of those whom he addresses. If there is anything in the department of Correspondence that has been overlooked, it may be included under the general term

MISCELLANEOUS.—It is taken for granted that the Secretary is not a mere machine, obeying the will of a manipulator, or a hireling, performing so much specified work for so much pay; but a man! living, breathing, pulsating in every chord and fibre of his spiritual nature with desire to extend the kingdom of Jesus; and hence that tact, which ought to spring from love, will readily seize favorable opportunities to use the pen in addressing letters of counsel, encouragement or instruction where they seem to be needed, and in now and then furnishing to periodical or paper items of news, correspondence or articles bearing upon the work. Another department of the Secretary's duties is

ORGANIZATION.—By this it is not meant that he should multiply new Associations without discrimination. Even in the exercise of the greatest prudence with his zeal (which should never falter) he will still find some organizations that grow as the mushroom and die like it. How much more so when they are formed with no previous knowledge as to who compose them and what prospect they have for future life. It is an easy matter, comparatively, to visit places where the work of an Association is new, and by the aid of a vivid imagination, great zeal and possibly some imported enthusiasm, awaken great interest among the people. This results in the formation of an Association. But it is quite a different thing to count correctly upon the patient continuance of its members in the work that may be so enthusiastically commenced.

The State Secretary should be concerned about the remote consequences of the forming of new Associations. Enthusiasm is indeed needed, but something more is also required; something upon which the Society can build, and live and grow, vitalizing others; and doing present and constant good for the cause of Christ. Otherwise it is as a fire of shavings dying out, through pure inability to feed itself.

It is the duty of the Secretary to examine the ground previous to organization as carefully as possible, so that he may count with tolerable certainty that at least a half dozen reliable persons in the place have the work at heart, and will not expend all their zeal upon the first three months of its life. I now have upon my roll the names of eight or ten important points in Pennsylvania, in which it is determined to form Associations, so soon as it can be found that in each of these places there are at least six persons who will bear in the arms of their faith the cause they espouse, even though storms and trials come upon it.

The Secretary should cultivate an extensive acquaintance in every part of the State, seize every opportunity to obtain a knowledge of the religious life of the different cities and towns, and as far as possible obtain the names and seek the acquaintance of constant Christian workers wherever they may be found. In course of time this will give him an advantage in the work of organization, not easily to be estimated. When the right material is offered, he should embrace the opportunity to form an Association; otherwise he should proceed with caution.

It is taken for granted that no instruction is wanted in this paper as to how to organize. It is supposed that an Executive Committee, in choosing a Secretary, would select one who has attested his talent for organization, as it is one of the

main reasons why he should be placed in such position, yet this does not end the duties of the Secretary.

Next comes the *fostering of Associations already formed, (especially the weaker ones.)* This may be classed under the head of *visitation*—which may be either *public or private*. Public visitation has been conducted in Pennsylvania for the past two years, by holding Local Conventions, or visitation meetings, from two to three days in each place. In this way the great majority of our Associations have been visited once, and in some instances twice. The plan of arranging for these meetings is as follows: A circular letter is sent out by the Chairman of the Executive Committee, which I insert for the information of those who may desire it.

*"Dear Brethren:—*The Executive Committee of the Young Men's Christian Association of Pennsylvania propose to hold a series of Local Conventions or Visitation Meetings throughout the State. The design of these meetings is to give and receive encouragement and instruction in that part of our Master's work in which we are engaged—to stimulate as far as possible those who have never engaged in it, and to consider such plans as may be thought to increase the usefulness and permanency of our organizations. With your consent meetings will be held in ———, on the ———, commencing at 2½ o'clock P. M. of the first day; the hours of session thereafter being 10 A. M., 2½ P. M., and 7½ P. M. The Executive Committee will be represented by Rev. S. A. Taggart, State Secretary of Pittsburg, Prof. Wm. Johnson, of Philadelphia, who will conduct the singing, and as far as possible by the member of the Executive Committee, residing in your district.

In arranging for these meetings, the Executive Committee would suggest (1.) that your Association appoint a committee to prepare a programme of exercises, invite brethren from neighboring Associations to come and take part, and endeavor to secure representatives from places where no organizations exist. (2.) Among the topics to be selected, the following are suggested: The encouragements in our work. The best means of enlisting new workers. Neighborhood Prayer Meetings. Open-Air Meetings. Praise Meetings. Bible Classes. Personal work for Christ. Personal consecration to Christ. (3.) Let special prayer be offered by you as an Association and as individuals for the power of the Holy Spirit in these meetings. Should no notice be received to the contrary, it will be *presumed that arrangements will be made for the meetings at the specified time.*

Your Brother in Christian bonds,

H. K. PORTER,

Chairman Executive Committee.

Over one hundred of these meetings have been held in all parts of the State, and the testimony to the blessedness of their influence is universal. Very frequently they have been attended with wonderful spiritual power, bringing revival to the Associations and to churches.

To the State Secretary is entrusted the perfecting of all arrangements on the part of the Executive Committee for holding these meetings. He is expected to be present and take part in them, and especially see that others take part also. By no means should he monopolize the time or the attention of those present in performing duties that it would be more helpful to have others perform. But he should have such readiness and tact as to enlist all who are present in some part of the service, if possible—inspiring them with the feel

ing that the meeting is theirs as well as his. In this way much latent talent is developed, and many are encouraged to start in an active service for Christ.

From all parts of the State come written and verbal testimony to the blessedness of these meetings. In them many have learned to take the first steps in "the way of life," and from Colleges and Theological Seminaries, as well as all departments of business, comes the word of new impulses received, to a life of earnestness and consecration for Christ.

Aside from this public work the Secretary will find frequent opportunity for *private visitation*, especially among the weaker organizations. He should hold himself in readiness to answer all calls for his personal presence and counsel.

As an instance, the case of an Association in a very important point in Pennsylvania comes to my mind. From a number of causes it was brought almost upon the verge of disorganization. The question to disband was very seriously entertained by many of its members. The Executive Committee learned of the state of affairs, and at its meeting directed the Secretary to go at once to the place, assure the brethren of the Association of its sympathy with them, and its desire to help by advice or material aid, or in any way needed. The visit was blessed in gathering a number of the members together, inclining them to take a hopeful view of the situation. A plan was adopted to secure a more united co operation of the churches. A suggestion to cut down items of expense not necessary to its prosperity was acted upon, and the Association started with new life, and has been wielding a blessed influence ever since.

In some such way the Secretary will find opportunities for private visitation which may be blessed in giving encouragement and preventing the ever to be deplored era in the history of many Associations—namely, *that of disorganization*.

If I were to confine myself strictly to the subject, I would say nothing upon the question of finances, yet it ought to receive some notice. The contemplation of such work as this forces the query, How the financial obligations which must necessarily be assumed in its prosecution are to be met? Most emphatically I would say the Secretary ought not to be burdened with any such care. It belongs to the Executive Committee to make all such provision; and in the main this must be done by soliciting individual subscriptions. It is true that every Association ought to contribute something, and do it *heartily*. Yet so long as they maintain their present *average financial ability*, the greater part of the funds must be raised from individual sources. This has been the case in Pennsylvania, and in a general way, it may safely be predicted to be the same in every State attempting it.

The work should not be commenced until the financial sky is clear. Uncertainty in this will most likely end in mortifying failure. In dismissing the subject I would press the point, that the State Secretary should always remember the distinct nature of this office. It is not that of a Missionary or Evangelist. While he should always be evangelistic in spirit, yet this should be manifested in specific efforts to benefit Young Men's Christian Associations, and make their distinct mission a greater blessing to the world. In this he will find more than enough to tax all his time and attention.

In concluding, I would call your attention to the great importance of some such systematic effort as has already been described. It should be prosecuted in every State of the Union. Our organizations are entirely voluntary in their character, and hence the greater necessity for some system of supervision that

will tend to form stronger bonds of union, and produce greater unity of purpose. If one State does not find itself sufficiently strong to undertake it, why not combine its strength with one or two others. To the International Executive Committee is presented a vast field too in those States where few organizations exist. It has endeavored to meet this to a certain extent in the past; but let its work be more heartily sustained by the memberships through the length and breadth of this Continent, and what has been done in the past is but a small token of what may be accomplished in the future.

The hymn,

“The Song of Victory,”

was then sung. The topics which had been opened were then discussed by Mr. J. B. H. Headley, of Amherst College, Robt. Smith, of St. Paul, Minn., Wm. Cummings, of Truro, Nova Scotia, Rev. C. S. Brooks, of South Deerfield, Mass., spoke of the large number of conversions and admissions to his Church, resulting from the labors of the Executive Committee, and desired that an arrangement could be made, so that the same men might return to the field over which they had gone, so as to build up the converts in the faith. Their influence was greater over them than even that of the pastors.

D. H. Sinclair, of Hamilton, Ontario, closed the discussion, referring to the influence of the Executive Committee in reviving different Associations.

Mr. R. R. McBurney, of New York, moved that the Business Committee be requested to set apart further time for the discussion of this topic.

Mr. Jas. Buchanan, of Trenton, N. J., moved as a substitute that the whole matter be referred to the Business Committee. Carried.

T. A. Nelson, of Toledo, Ohio, opened the discussion of the third topic, viz.: “*How can the usefulness of State and Provincial Conventions be promoted?*”

In 1866, at Albany, the International Convention instructed the corresponding members of its Executive Committee to call conventions of the Associations in those States and Provinces. Three States at once responded to the suggestion, with very gratifying results. Since that time ninety-seven of these Conventions have been held in different parts of the Continent. A list of these is, I understand, to be appended to the report of the proceedings of this Convention. My attention has been called more particularly to the Conventions of Ohio.

The popularity of this assembly is so great as to make it very difficult to secure the benefits of it for any particular town or city. I remember very dis-

tinctly the arduous task I found it, eighteen months ago, to secure the State Convention for Toledo. I determined to leave no stone unturned, and sought out every delegate. Associations had sent up strong delegations armed with speeches, memorials, invitations from pastors, Associations, &c., begging for the Convention. Many presented what they supposed even superior claims for their respective towns and cities. When the vote decided in our favor, men sprang to their feet and asked for the Convention one and two years in advance.

All this enthusiasm and eagerness is explained by the fact that wherever the Convention assemblies, a profound impression is made; the Churches are aroused, and the whole religious community awakened to a new life of activity. This results in the conversion of scores and hundreds. How can such popularity be secured, and the usefulness of the Convention be promoted?

Personal Visitation has done very much for us in the past, and we are again inaugurating a like movement. To revive and strengthen individual Associations is to increase the attendance at and the power of the State Convention. District Conventions are of much local service, and sharpen the appetite for the richer feast of the State gathering.

We have been also blessed with corresponding members and State Committees *who did their duty*. The issuing of the State and local circulars are important preliminary steps. These circulars should emanate from men who are well known among the Associations. The voice of a stranger the Associations will not heed. Let the signatures to the circulars be those of men who are recognized leaders in the work. In addition to the private circulars, numerous letters should be written to prominent Association men, urging them to take an interest in the State Convention. The invitation contained in the local circular should be of the most unmistakably hearty kind.

Invite from neighboring States a few of the most prominent men, having, if possible, a national reputation, and announce their expected presence in your circulars. Forward circulars and letters to the ministers of towns in which there are no Associations. Urge them to attend in person and appoint one or two of their active laymen to represent their churches. In the circulars impress upon the Associations their imperative duty to have themselves represented by their very best men; men of God; active, earnest, devoted, practical men, who can think to a purpose, speak with effect, and carry home to their respective Associations the results and enthusiasm of the Convention; men by whom they are willing to be judged in respect to intelligence, spiritually, and love for our peculiar work.

Men who attend the Convention merely for a few days' rest and pleasure should seek both elsewhere. The attendance of professional talkers is to be deprecated. Delegates come in the hope of gaining new ideas, not for the purpose of listening to men who like to hear themselves talk. Men who do the work at home are the men who will be ready to learn at the Convention—therefore send them.

In some instances the practice of calling on the Delegates at the Convention for such moneyed assistance as the State Committee may need during the year, has proved a drawback, and prevented the attendance of some. This is wrong, for giving is as much a part of worship as prayer or praise; but it may be well, as is the custom in some States, to send out, before the Convention, a circular and blank, asking each Association to name and fill in the sum it is able and willing to contribute towards the general expenses. The simple announcement

of the aggregate amount need be all the mention of finances made before the Convention.

Much interest in Conventions is developed by having the Delegates of each town and city relate the incidents and give a general resumé of the Convention before some of the assembled congregations on their return home.

Preparation for the Convention should be begun some weeks ahead of the event. Secure the good will of the press, and keep the public—godly and ungodly, saint and sinner—posted on the fact that the State Convention will meet in your town and is expected to make a stir among the dry bones.

Call your pastors into counsel with you in the work of preparation. Impress them with the fact that one object in securing the visit of the Convention was, that the churches might be stirred up and strengthened. Call your prominent lady workers together and get them interested. In addition to these items of preparation, call upon Christians, churches and the whole community to remember the Convention in prayer before God.

On the eve of Convention day let the churches assemble in a union service for conference and prayer, at which secure the attendance of some of your most wide awake and earnest Christians, who by exhortation and prayer shall quicken in the hearts of God's people a longing expectation of his blessing. By this time you will have the people *with* you, and hearts and homes will open wide to speak their welcome to your delegates.

The means of usefulness in the Convention may be said to be fourfold :

- (1.) The discussion of topics—well prepared and of vital interest.
- (2.) The creation of enthusiasm in the work.
- (3.) The popularizing of the Y. M. C. A.
- (4.) Direct religious work.

The first is important, because through the discussion of topics (which should all have a practical bearing) much light is thrown upon the work. The second means of usefulness is not to be overlooked. A division of the French army could only be made to charge on a Russian fortification during the Crimean war, by being allowed, with the Marseilles Hymn, to sing themselves into a furor of patriotic enthusiasm. While in this condition every man's strength was *doubled*. The charge was irresistible; the enemy fled, and in a few moments the tri-colored flag of France floated above the fort.

So, when we meet, let heaven ring with the Christian war cry—

"Ye sons of God awake to glory,

Hark what myriads bid you rise!"

Then let us go forth into the field filled with the spirit of conquest.

The third element of usefulness—that of popularizing the Y. M. C. A.—will be appreciated by any Association that has in the same town with it many good Christian people and those who are otherwise influential—that are not at all in harmony with the Y. M. C. A. through misrepresentations of it, and misconception of the work it seeks to do. Just here the tact and discretion of the Committee on Entertainment will come into play, for the houses of such persons will be opened if for nothing else than to preserve the city's reputation for hospitality. Study these men and women, learn their particular objections to you as an Association, and then assign them as their guests, those who will dispel doubt and correct errors. The fourth element of usefulness suggested, that of *direct religious work*, transcends all the others in importance. Indeed this has been made the prominent feature of the Ohio State Conventions, and accounts as we have already stated for its wide popularity.

Every delegate is expected to be a Missionary, and the house we assign him to, is to be his field. If there be unconverted members within the household, he is expected to win them by the influence of a prayerful spirit, a pleasing address and a cheerful Christian manner. Many homes last winter were made forever bright by the work of these young men, and letters came to us saying that in entertaining our delegates they entertained Angels unawares. The leavening influence of the Convention was felt all through our city.

A notable feature of the Ohio Conventions consists in their remaining in the city over the Sabbath, thus giving the town the benefit of their presence on a day especially set apart for Christian labor. The whole time is given to work for souls. The pastors of all the leading churches were clamorous for delegates to fill their pulpits, and from the sacred desk throughout the city young men with hearts filled with love, and tongues touched with the coal of fire—preached Christ, the Christian's joy—the sinner's hope. A deep solemnity fell on the people, and when in the evening the largest hall in our city was thrown open, it scarcely begun to accommodate the thousands that were seeking an entrance.

The Farewell Meeting will never be forgotten, nor its influence cease to be felt while our city has a history. The flaming torch from the Convention at Toledo was carried throughout the State, conversions multiplied from the tens into the hundreds and thousands. Quickened into newness of life and vigor, our own Association under God has been instrumental in the inauguration of meetings that have resulted in nearly 800 accessions to the Churches of Christ.

We commend to other States and our beloved brethren of the Provinces, the course we have pursued. Assuredly God will bless it, the same glorious results will follow, and thus the usefulness of our State and Provincial Conventions will be promoted.

After singing

“We'll Help the Cause Along,”

John B. Sands, of Newburgh, N. Y., made some remarks, followed by Geo. W. Cobb, of Cleveland, Ohio, who said :

The usefulness of State and Provincial Conventions can be promoted by sending men to these Conventions who have done work through the year. Don't send merely the men who have a little money or a little spare time, and who therefore want to go to the State Conventions as delegates. I want the warm hearted brethren who have stood shoulder to shoulder with me through the year in prayer-meetings, outside work and inside work, to go with me to the Convention.

James Buchanan, Trenton, N. J. :

I was going to give this recipe for promoting the efficiency of these Conventions : Get and keep a tight grip on the talkers and put forward the men who do the work. We always have in every State Convention men who do an immense amount of talking. Good, anxious, earnest brethren get up on the floor and talk as if they were Boanerges. Yet when they go home to their Associations they do little or no work. In our State when a brother of that sort begins to discuss a topic of which he knows practically nothing, we intimate in as mild a manner as possible that his services are not needed. But on the other

hand we attempt to get hold and bring out the practical ideas of the men who do the work. These are generally the modest men of the Convention, and it is necessary to bring them out. In this way delegates will separate after having learned something from each other, and if you follow such a plan you will undoubtedly promote the efficiency of Conventions.

James S. Ostrander, Newark, N. J. :

We should send to the Convention men who can come back to our localities able to tell us what they heard in the Conventions. It is well to secure the services of one or more of the delegates on their way home. Delegates are too often mere *sponges*. We come here and absorb the good things and then go home and have to be *squeezed* before we will tell anything about it. We want to carry home with us a photograph of the Convention and put it before the eyes of every single member who stays at home.

Robert Weidensall, of Omaha, Neb. :

Never appoint a Corresponding Secretary of a State who is not efficient or will not do his duty. I know of one or two cases where I have prepared the way for a Convention because the Secretary has not done the work.

E. T. C. Knowles, of St. John, N. B., made some remarks, giving encouraging report of the last Convention of the Maritime Provinces.

Prof. J. D. Dreher, Roanoke College, Salem, Va. :

I represent a State here which unfortunately has no State organization and no State Convention. If I am not out of order I would like some brother to give me a plan whereby I may take some steps to form an organization of this character in Virginia.

John J. Platt, Poughkeepsie, N. Y. :

I want some of these brethren to tell us how to get a State Convention together. We have had six in the State of New York. I was corresponding member for four or five years, and have been a member of the State Executive Committee since. I know that there has been energy enough and work enough expended in that one point, of getting a State Convention together, to have accomplished a great deal if it had been exerted in another direction. But our State Conventions in New York have been what I call failures. The one at Poughkeepsie in 1870, was the largest one held. They have been growing smaller since then. You can't do much with a Convention unless the people come there. When I was corresponding member I circulated notices in every paper in the State, wrote to every Association, sent circulars and personal letters to every man I knew in the Association, and wrote letters to every one I thought not likely to be interested and did everything else I could. About seventy delegates attended. At our last Convention, I stated distinctly I was not in favor of holding any more Conventions, unless we can be enlightened concerning some way to get members there.

Richard C. Morse, New York, General Secretary of the Executive Committee, was called upon for a reply, and said :

What will in part answer both questions, is that the State Convention is a growth. You cannot have a full fledged Convention this year either in Virginia or New York. To foster the growth in usefulness and power of a State Convention, it is necessary to bear in mind that between the two questions discussed this morning there is a very close connection. When you secure "effective personal visitation and distinct Conventions" in a State, then you will have good "State Conventions." On the other hand, it is only as the State Conventions themselves foster such personal visitation and district Conventions that they become effective. The two things act, retroact and interact. They are mutually interdependent. What the State of New York needs is more personal visitation and district Conventions. It has enjoyed, indeed, personal visitation of a quiet, methodical and patient sort. Much sober, painstaking work has been done and well done. But enthusing effort by a few Christians, who in company visit places and hold meetings that affect the popular mind and feeling, has not been attempted as in Pennsylvania, Ohio and Massachusetts. Even the communities that have invited and entertained the State Conventions of New York have only been partially stirred. The delegates have met on the secular busy days of the week. Their evening meetings have made some popular stir, but a Convention makes most enthusing impression on a place when the delegates stay over Sunday and speak in pulpit, Sunday school and; hall, or opera house. The community is shaken with the contagion of their enthusiasm. In Ohio and the Maritime Provinces the Convention is thus used to the best advantage. In Pennsylvania and Massachusetts the Conventions do not make this excellent use of the Lord's day, and they are not so popular and so much sought after as in Ohio. But the stimulating, people-reaching power which in the latter State comes chiefly from the Convention and from delegation visits made in their neighborhood by some of the leading Associations, is exerted in Pennsylvania and Massachusetts district Conventions held during the year by the Executive Committee or State Secretary. The State Conventions foster this work, raise more money each successive year for its support, and value, appreciate and improve this agency, which in New York is completely neglected. Pennsylvania, with its State Secretary and the large income (\$3,500) it raises for its Committee, is in the van of Association progress, and naturally in the number of active, vigorous Societies is first on the roll of the States and Provinces. But this position has been reached slowly. It is the growth of years of patient effort. If similar work is to be done in New York it will take time, and we must seek with painstaking to discover how personal visitation and district and State Conventions may be effectively combined upon the plan which the Lord has so abundantly blessed in other States.

The Chairman read the following invitation:

VASSAR COLLEGE, *July 10, 1873.*

H. K. PORTER, Esq., *President, &c., Y. M. C. A. Convention :*

DEAR SIR :—The President and Executive Committee of Vassar College extends a cordial invitation to your Convention to visit the Institution at such time as meets your approval, whether collectively or individually, from day to day, during the Session of the Convention.

M. VASSAR, Jr.

JAMES BUCHANAN, Trenton, N. J., moved that the invitation be accepted, and that our thanks be extended by the Secretary. Adopted.

The Business Committee made the following Special Report and recommendation :

The Business Committee report that members of State Executive Committees or members of Associations not accredited as delegates, are recognized as Corresponding Members of this Convention, with full liberty to participate in its deliberations, in accordance with the resolution of the Convention passed yesterday.

Adopted.

The following report of the Business Committee was also adopted :

THURSDAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

Devotional exercises from 2½ to 3 P. M., at which time regular business will commence.

Reading of Minutes ; Calls for Resolutions ; Miscellaneous Business ; Report of Standing Committees.

Topic No. 6 to be introduced by Rev. Lyman Abbott, D.D., of N. Y., at 4 o'clock, in an address of fifteen minutes. A discussion in five minute addresses till 4:45. At 4:45, Topic No. 1 to be introduced by H. K. Porter, President of Convention, in an address of fifteen minutes, followed by five minute addresses from delegates.

Reports of Special Committees. Adjournment at 5:30.

The Business Committee request that invitations for next Annual Convention be handed in to-day.

They also give notice that the first regular business for to-morrow morning will be the taking of subscriptions for the Executive Committee Fund ; after which the place of meeting for next Convention will be selected.

The Secretary read the following answer to the telegram of the German Young Men's Christian Association of Newark, N. J. :

POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y., July 10, 1873.

MR. LEO. AIGELTINGER, NEWARK, N. J. :

The Eighteenth International Convention of the United States and British Provinces, in annual convention assembled, most cordially return the greeting and blessing of the German Young Men's Christian Associations of Newark, N. J., and wish you God-speed in the glorious work of the Master.

JOHN V. L. GRAHAM, *Secretary*,

18th I. C. Y. M. C. A. of the U. S. and B. P.

" Work, for the Night is Coming,"

Was sung, when, on motion, the Convention adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION.—THURSDAY.

July, 10th.

The Convention was called to order by Vice-President Wm. H. Horner, of Baltimore, Md., at 3 P. M.

Mr. M. H. Hodder, of London, Eng., made the opening prayer.

The minutes of the morning session, as well as of the afternoon and evening sessions of the previous day, were read and approved.

After singing,

"All hail the power of Jesus' name,"

resolutions, memorials and propositions were received.

Vice-President M. S. Crosby moved that H. Thane Miller be requested to conduct the singing during the remainder of the Convention. Carried.

Mr. E. G. Harrison, of Hulmeville, Pa., presented the following communication from a new Christian Association just organized at Bristol, Pa., which was received:

BRISTOL, Pa., July 9, 1873.

Organized our Association last night, in Washington Hall; President, J. M. Slack; Secretary, Capt. Morris. A goodly number were present; have some forty members; a prosperous beginning; have rented a hall.

W. S. PERKINS.

M. D. Cross, Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, to which was referred the resolution to extend the time for the reception of resolutions and memorials, having asked and obtained leave to report at this time, said:

That, in the judgment of the Committee, it was best that the Convention should adhere strictly to the rules adopted for its government, and therefore recommended the rejection of the resolution.

Mr. E. A. Hutchins, of New York, moved the adoption of the report. Carried.

The Committee on Devotional Meetings gave notice of meetings to be held that evening.

Geo. H. Griffin, of Milford, Conn., asked for information of the Committee appointed at Lowell, to consider the matter of "Pernicious Literature."

Mr. McBurney, of New York, stated that the Committee was one appointed at a private meeting of members of the Convention, and without the official action of the Convention.

After singing

"Rock of Ages,"

H. M. Moore, of Somerville, Mass., offered prayer.

The discussion of topic No. 6, viz., "What can the Association do to destroy the Influence of 'Pernicious Literature,'" was opened by the Rev. Lyman Abbot, of New York. He said:

It is the function of the historian, rather than of the theorist, to answer this question. It is best answered by asking another. What has already been done by the Association to destroy the influence of pernicious literature? For I don't think it is too much to say, that almost all that has been done in this line by organized effort, for the past year, is due to the Young Men's Christian Association. I do not stand here to point out to you new methods, but to suggest that every Association carry out with vigor the work which has been *already* marked out by the example of those Associations which, through the past year, have had placed on the Statute Book laws repressing this evil in its various forms. These laws have been passed by the United States Government and several of the State Governments. Nearly a hundred men have been arrested, and in many other respects reformatations have been wrought. Libraries have been scattered from one end of the land to the other, that the evil might be driven out by the good; and all this has been done for the citizens of the United States by the Y. M. C. A.

What do we mean by pernicious literature? First: Open, strong, avowed, scornful, infidel literature, of which there is not a little in the United States. Second: The more subtle, unobserved, infidel literature, which trickles down into our homes and households, and into the minds of the young, through popular magazines and secular journals. You can count upon the fingers of your two hands, if not upon the fingers of one hand, all the prominent leading secular dailies of this country that are under the control of *Christian* men. And yet we call this a *Christian* nation! Third: corrupt, mawkish, sensational novels. It is part of my professional duty to know what there is passing through the American press, and of those books that issue from respectable publishers, not a few deserve the name of pernicious. There is also a vast amount of pernicious literature that is unobserved by the masses. My home overlooks eight miles of the Hudson River. I can see the gray bank of cloud as it creeps up through the gate of the Highlands, and spreads over Newburgh Bay. I am in the sunlight, but a hundred or two hundred feet below me, all is fog and miasma. So we are in the sunlight of Christian literature. No miasma to breathe. But there is creeping in upon this country the fog of corrupting literature, way below us, and hardly known to exist. There is a single sensational newspaper in the City of New York, that has a larger circulation than all the religious newspapers of New York put together, and I think it is safe to say that two of them have a combined circulation greater than all the religious press of the country.

And in these depths there is a greater depth. There are some things of which the Apostle says, "It is a shame even so much as to speak." And there is a measure of iniquity that no man should touch, except when called to do so by the voice of solemn and sacred duty. For there are pits and houses which it belongs to the Board of Police alone to clean for the preservation of the community. But we are not in the Board of Police. "By their fruits ye shall

know them." And the whole tree, from its undermost root to its topmost branch and blossom, tells of the fruit it shall bear. Why is it that in every morning paper we see accounts of murders? Why is it that divorces grow frequent? Why is it that husband and wife are so easily separated by man, whom God has joined together?

What are we to do to destroy the influence of this literature? Briefly three things. First, something may be done by securing legislative enactment to press it. Second, by supplanting the evil with the good. It is a characteristic of the Christian system that its motto is "Overcome evil with Good." And that is its mode of universal reformation. It is something to take away the evil food from the table but vastly more to take away the evil appetite from the soul. And that which your Associations *can* do, is what they *are* doing, only more largely. In this work we need both to be more careful and more fearless. I would go into Y.M.C.A. rooms and study their newspaper pages. In reading-rooms, established by Christian men, I have seen newspapers which I would not let my boys read, and in other reading-rooms there was scarcely a newspaper that a boy would read if he could. There are faults on both sides. All human nature is God made, though Satan has perverted every faculty. By right education we can satisfy every true need of the human soul. We must use wit, humor and imagination to reach the soul at every point.

Nor is it enough to *provide* Christian literature. We have to *push* it. Nowadays purchasers do not go after their wares. The wares must be brought to them. The Devil has his culporteurs everywhere, pushing *his* literature. We must be equally energetic. I hold in my hands an extract from the letter of the Vice-President of the Pennsylvania R. R. Company—a Company that controls more railroads than any other in this country. This is his testimony. "I cannot use too strong language to express the mortification I feel at the fact that, upon every road that I am connected with, not only the vilest trash is sold as reading matter, but positively licentious books are thrust upon the passengers." I hear a great deal about the Omnipotent power of the railroad corporations. Poor things! they cannot control even the literature sold on the trains, but despite their authority it is thrust upon the passengers on every train. It is thrust upon us in every street car, on every newspaper stand, in every hotel, and its purchase made well-nigh compulsory. And can we do nothing? We should not only *provide*, but induce people to read *Christian* literature. Though you make your wedge never so sharp, you must have a beetle with which to drive it home. Every village and town in the land which has a Y.M.C.A. have it in their power to destroy the influence of pernicious literature.

We must also arouse public sentiment. It was while the good man of the house slept that the devil sowed tares. There is many a father who sleeps over his religious newspaper on Sunday afternoon, and does not know what his boy is reading in the chamber up-stairs. The paper that comes wrapped around a shoe from the shoemaker's, or around the coat from the tailor's, often constitutes the appetizing food that starts him on the evil way. And there are a few Christian fathers and possibly some Christian mothers, even, that open the door and invite these guests in. They remain careless and indifferent to such teaching until their children are imbued with the evil and corrupted. That which we need above everything else is to arouse these people. Every Christian minister ought to preach about it. Every Association ought to consider it. Every Christian press ought to discuss it. Every individual Christian

take action about it. Even Sabbath School libraries contain books of fiction that are scandalous, not *flagrant*, surely not, but of a mawkish, sentimental, sensational character, which leads the way to that which is worse. I think, if the devil ever enjoys himself, it is when he gets his book into the Sunday School library.

Above all, remember to pray for us. On this matter I speak from a personally felt need. I represent here, though unofficially, the Christian press. I hear prayers for mothers training their children; for Sabbath school teachers and their classes; for ministers preaching to congregations; and for missionaries laboring in distant lands, but how rarely do I hear a prayer for editors. There are times when I stand appalled at the thought that God calls me every week to speak to a congregation of an hundred thousand readers, more than could be reached with the living voice. Must I do it without the prayers of the Christian church? The Apostles could not cast the devil out of the demoniacal boy, because that kind came not forth but by fasting and prayer. The devil of licentious literature cometh not out by the cunning of our brain. But by the power of prayer and self sacrifice we may cast him out though his name be legion. May God give to us this spirit of prayer and of sacrifice. Amen.

J. M. Talcott, Providence, R. I., said:

I have had the care of hundreds of children since my connection with Reformatories, and have made a careful estimate of the literature used in the families whence these children came. Less than five per cent. of the boys and less than two per cent. of the girls have come from families where a religious paper was received regularly. One mother came last week with a large bundle of papers, and asked me: "Can we leave these papers?" I said, "I will look at them." I opened the bundle, and as soon as I saw the heading of the papers, I said: "No; you love that boy, and don't want him ruined. Look at this paper." "Why," she replied, "I did not know they were such papers as this; he has taken them for over three years." It was the influence of those papers that caused him to commit the crime for which he is now imprisoned.

We cannot enter too earnestly into this matter. As I go into family after family, I take up their papers and point to those poisonous paragraphs which destroy both soul and body. And Christian young men may accomplish a great work of this kind. This literature has been most influential in filling our Reformatories with boys and girls, as well as our prisons with older persons. For six years I was connected with the State Prison. Since then, for twenty years, I have labored for the young, feeling that Reformatories were needed to save them from the prison.

M. Schoonmaker, Walden, N. Y., said:

Four of the members of the Young Men's Christian Association in our town agreed to overthrow, if possible, the pernicious literature which was sold on every news-dealer's stand; but no one of them liked to speak about it to the Postmaster, who had control of the matter. He was a Christian man and a leader in our church. They did not consider it right for him to sell such literature. But at last they ventured to tell him of it, whereupon he acknowledged he had done wrong, and put a stop to it entirely.

After singing

"What shall the harvest be?"

Yates Hickey, of Pittsburgh, Pa., spoke on the same subject; being followed by

L. W. Munhall, Indianapolis, who said :

The first speaker on this subject said that the fog and miasma were below us. But even in our own homes we find some of this insidious poison among the literary productions we are called upon to read. I refer to the writings of such men as Ralph Waldo Emerson and Theodore Parker. The legitimate outgrowth of such writings has been the organization in the Eastern portion of our State of an Association to resist the tyranny of the Young Men's Christian Association. If you preach to such men the need of justification by faith in Jesus Christ, they will tell you I have no need of salvation. Such infidel writings are as thoroughly dangerous to the eternal welfare of the soul as other kinds of pernicious literature.

Thomas W. Chace, Providence, R. I. :

It is not the literature that the gentleman has just spoken of that is alluded to in this topic under discussion. It is the class of literature which comes in papers and obscene books that are scattered broadcast from our newsdealers' stands, and circulated through our cars. What can the Association do to repress these? Besides securing the repressing influences, the Y. M. C. A., can accomplish a great deal by means of appeals and memorials to superintendents of railroads and assistant managers, who will, as a rule, be found in sympathy with the cause. Get the prominent newspapers in your town to discuss this matter. There is no minister but will say to the young men, God speed! Will you brethren take hold of this work? Will every young man here say to himself: My first business, when I get home, will be to bring this matter before our Board of Directors, and before our Y. M. C. A. Just as the "Temples of Honor" that are springing up every day in our cities and towns, without resort to law, but simply by moral influences, are accomplishing so much in the cause of temperance, so the Y. M. C. A. throughout the country can, in a very great degree, suppress the distribution of this pernicious literature, if they will go to work in a proper manner.

Charles B. Morris, of Montclair, N. J. :

We have had a bill passed on this subject in New Jersey, a copy of which I shall be glad to place in the hands of every person who may desire it. You should have something similar enacted in your legislatures. We can effectually suppress this obscene literature by action through our legislatures, if we see that the law is enforced. I have seen on the counters of merchants hundreds of vile papers in which their wares were to be wrapped. These are often read by your children. Let the Christian young men of this Convention put a stop to this, and see that this law referred to is enacted. I would advise each Association to see their member of the legislature and their senators about the passage of such a law. The members of our legislature said they would not dare to oppose such a law. If we did not watch it, however, they may kill it by other means than by prominently opposing it, e. g. by entrusting it to the tender mercies of some committee.

Anthony Comstock, Brooklyn, N. Y. :

We should speak to the young men of the influence of such literature upon their present and future life, showing them that it will give them wrong ideas of life's duties and of home. You should call into your Association meetings

educated and scientific men, your physicians and ministers, to talk plainly to the young men of the evil influence that will be exerted upon their minds and passions by reading these low, trashy publications. Let every man present say, I will not patronize a newsdealer in my town that sells or offers for sale such literature. Let every Association imitate the example of the Cleveland Association. They procured an ordinance forbidding the sale by the newsdealers of low illustrated papers, and when that ordinance was passed, enforced it. You will find any newsdealers ready to give up selling these papers if his rivals will agree to do the same.

W. W. Anderson, Prince Edward's Island:

I have known the very best scholars to be sometimes ruined through this pernicious literature. I ask each member of this Association to use every influence with the citizens of his community to see that our teachers are perfectly agreed to frustrate the sale and publication of this stuff. I have frequently represented to my scholars the consequences of such reading, its destructive influence upon their future life, and can recall many instances when this warning has sufficed to keep them from the evil.

T. J. Wilkie, Toronto, Canada: I have spoken with newsdealers upon this subject. We induced one to send back all of his obnoxious papers, and I think the others will follow his example.

W. J. Cooke, Cleveland, O.: We went to the city dealers and they would not give up the sale. We framed a petition and sent it to the City Council, asking for an ordinance which fines a dealer \$100 and costs for selling this literature in our town.

R. R. McBurney, New York:

I think it would be unwise for the Associations to become prosecuting attorneys in connection with this or any other work. But I think we should encourage the work as Christian men in our respective communities, and undertake the work as individuals, prosecuting it with diligence.

Vice-President Sheriff E. C. Thomas, of Hamilton, Canada, in the chair.

“Stand up for Jesus,”

was sung by the Convention, after which the first topic, “What can the Associations do to Counteract the Social Temptations of Young Men?” was opened by President H. K. Porter, Pittsburgh, Pa., as follows. He said:

The subject is one which called into existence our Associations. That these temptations exist, we well know, both by our own experience and by that of others. We are not to mourn too much over this fact. Temptation, if properly met, will prove a source of strength. It is God's way of testing and trying us. Therefore we should meet them in a manly way, and in the strength of Christ overcome them.

Among the temptations of peculiar force to-day are, first, the attractions of social and fashionable life. Are we to decry these attractions? On the contrary, I believe they may be made means of the highest good to men. The temptation consists in carrying them to such an extent that their real uses are lost sight of. When they make us forget our duties and draw us away from Christ to the neglect of His work and His service, then they become a most serious injury.

There is another temptation. Next week one of the most manly sports that young men can be engaged in is to have its fête day in Springfield. The young men of our colleges are to meet there in manly contest on the river. Whoever has been present at a boat race knows that this will be an occasion for betting, drinking, gambling and rioting in every vice. Now our Associations can, and ought, to enter a manly protest against these degenerating accompaniments, and thus seek to remove from one of the noblest and most manly of sports that which at present disgraces it.

Among others are the temptations to idleness, frivolity and extravagance of life; to political and other preferment, as well as to get rich at any cost. How are we, as Associations, to help to counteract them? I suppose the introduction of games into the Associations has in some instances proved useful in keeping men away from evil associations. I cannot speak from experience upon this point, but would like to hear from Associations where such instrumentality had been used, to know the result of their experience. We may also materially aid young men against these temptations by introducing them into our churches.

These temptations come not merely to men sunken in sin, and whom we seek to lift out of great degradation, but also to young men who have just made an open profession of their faith in Christ before the world. Coming into our church life, such young men feel oftentimes that there is an obstacle in the way of Christian work almost impossible to overcome. I think we all know it. Any of us that have had any experience in Sunday School work know well how difficult it is to get young men, though active in the Sabbath School, to take part in church meetings. But if we bring them into the Association to work where there are other young men, they will take kindly to it. May we not in this way prove a blessing? Often social allurements tempt a young man to say of his profession of religion: "If it is going to call for such a sacrifice I will give it up. It costs too much." Can we not take such an one into our sympathies so strongly as to gain an influence over him? Can we not show him that there is a joy in religion, a manliness in the service of Jesus Christ, which is better than all the pleasures of the world?

Another influence to be wielded by us as Associations, is over the boys. We don't think enough of them. They are to be young men soon; in a little while full-grown men. We ought to have literature, for the boys, in our rooms, and something that will attract them thither. One of our Superintendents in Pittsburgh attends the boys' prayer meeting, as well as the Christian Association and the Sunday School work.

The silent influence these Associations are exerting is a restraining power not to be overlooked. A few weeks ago, at Niagara, I saw a placard on a bridge, that on the Sabbath people could not pass over until after one o'clock in the afternoon, as the person owning the property desired to have the hours set apart for service undisturbed. Under the placard some one had written: "Is this the work of the Young Men's Christian Association?" I don't think

it was. But does not that querulous question show that the Young Men's Christian Association is exerting an influence which makes itself felt in the social atmosphere of the times? But it is by the example of individual lives, more than in any other way, that we are to accomplish any real, permanent good. Association effort must be the association of individual efforts in every conceivable way. If in speaking to young men whom we wish to influence, we address them in a condescending manner, we will fail. But if we come in a hearty, manly, way and tell them of the joy that Jesus has given to us, and the happiness we find in His service, then we can hope to influence them. And to make this influence lasting we must bring these young men into the Association rooms, into the Association life. Let us then make these rooms and this life so attractive that it will draw those into its Christian atmosphere for whom Christ died.

The Convention then sang,

"Jesus, I turn to thee."

Vice-President James W. Lapsley, of Selma, Alabama, in the chair.

The discussion was continued by Vice-President Sheriff E. C. Thomas, of Hamilton, Canada. He said :

Young men seek the streets, the billiard-room and other places to amuse themselves. We need to offer them good counter-attractions. How shall the associations provide them? By doing what all good Associations *are* doing, namely: putting up handsome buildings where the young men can enjoy social conversation. If club-rooms can also be provided with bowling alleys, and games inoffensive to Christians, so much the better. Not the prayer meeting or religious meeting alone are of use. We have to draw in the world, but the world is not attracted to our rooms by prayer meetings. First draw them in by amusements and attractions until we get them in the habit of coming there, then we can use those higher influences which will make them Christians.

J. K. Earle, Worcester, Mass. :

The question presented by the brother is a most interesting one. A brother in the City of Worcester, who, for forty long years served the world with its pleasures, but who knows the way of the Christian now, for he has been converted, was once going by a club-room with Brother Burnell, who said to him, "Come, let us go up, yonder," "No," he replied, "That is no place for me; that place is leading many a young man the wrong way." There were the amusements and the games which you are advocating.

William Roche, Jr., Halifax, N. S. :

First of all is the influence brought to bear by the Association in its collective capacity, and next, the influence that private members can exert upon others. Before you can apply a successful remedy you must get some knowledge of the disease, and if you wish to lift the young men from dissipation and from social temptations it is necessary, first of all, to discover exactly how these temptations apply to them. Then examine the mind and disposition of the young men, because we have not all the same disease, the same feelings, and

the remedies that would answer for some, would be worthless in the case of others. What are the attractions of social life? They are the frivolity and the vicious, mawkish conversation of our social reunions, vice engendering, leading young men into social dissipation. And they are owing to the influence of seductive young men who have genial dispositions, cultivated intellects, superior minds, but who, unfortunately, have used these bright gifts and talents of God for perverting and ruining those whom they meet. Oh, that those talents and powers had been happily employed in Christ's service. There are different kinds of men; some are running into vice from idleness, and the only way you can influence them is to adopt amusements of an innocent character to their tastes, until you have given them the capacity for something higher. Have also for young men of ability that come into your rooms something that will bring out their literary capacities and social parts. With regard to private work, you have associate members, active young men, who have broad cultivation. How far can their influence be utilized? Have them put on your committees. Let the head men say to them, "We know you have education, and can do good in your special way, only do it. Come into the rooms on a certain night, and there will be young men there whom we will indicate. Talk to them upon some classical or literary subject, or use your musical talents and bring out that man in conversation, and by this policy cultivate his friendship so that you can bring him into your Association and make a useful man of him."

W. M. Martin, Brooklyn, N. Y. :

We know that young men can be enticed out of bad places, and in Brooklyn we act on that principle. We have taken in 2,770 new members within the last year, and now have not less than 5,000 in all. We have a building 100 by 110, and three stories high, for young ladies. Above the store large fine rooms in which are three pianos. We give lectures, establish classes, and have a social resort that is second to none in the City of Brooklyn. Our rooms have been a perfect beehive. We have had until the hot months 3,850 persons drawing books out of a library of less than 6,000 volumes. The Mercantile Library, with 40,000 volumes has not as many members as we have readers. We can fill a hall seating 3,000. We have educational lectures by such men as General Howard and Professor Marsh. We have classes in different studies, one, a French class, 300 strong.

George A. Hall, Washington, D. C. :

Another phase of the question affects me very seriously, viz., the social temptations of Christian young men. I have found in my experience, both in the Church and Association, that our social attractions, as we call them, don't tend to spiritualize even our earnest Christian young men. When the Secretaries met I asked advice in regard to this. We have amusements and social conversation, and all these influences of which Mr. Martin has spoken, but there is no Christ in them. Young men just led to Christ and eager for Christian work, come and spend an hour or two with the young ladies in the social circle and are thereby tempted to neglect Christian duties for the sake of social pleasure. Can we entertain them and yet keep them earnestly at work?

O. O. Howard, of Washington, D. C., closed the discussion :

The solution of the whole question is, "Christ all and in all." The great danger is of giving these secondary social agencies primary importance.

A motion to extend the time was lost. After singing
 "More love to Thee, O Christ,"
 the Chairman of the Devotional Committee, R. K. Remington,
 made some announcements.

The Business Committee reported as follows:

EVENING SESSION.—THURSDAY.

Convention will assemble at the Opera House at 8 P. M.

Opening exercises will be led by Rev. T. A. Fernley, Philadelphia.

Replies will be received to the questions in the question-drawer. This will be found in the vestibule of the church, and into it the delegates are requested to drop their questions, with the names of the parties from whom they wish to receive replies.

At 8.30 a discussion on the following special topic: "Are the Associations giving sufficient prominence to work for young men employed as clerks in stores and offices," opened by Russell Sturgis, Jr., Boston, followed by C. H. Hooper, Selma, Alabama, H. Thane Miller and Hon. John P. Hill.

Adjournment at 9.30.

FRIDAY MORNING.—Devotional exercises from 9 till 9.30 A. M., led by Russell Sturgis, Jr. Reading of Minutes. Miscellaneous Business. Receiving of subscriptions to the fund for the International Executive Committee. Selection of place of meeting for the next Annual Convention. Reports of Special Committees.

EVENING SESSION.—THURSDAY.

The Convention was called to order in the Opera House at 7.45 P. M., by the President, H. K. Porter. After singing

"All hail the power of Jesus' name,"

the devotional exercises were led by the Rev. J. A. Fernley, of Philadelphia.

The first business being answers to the questions in the box, the following were read and answered:

1. Should Associations prosecute crime?

Answered by R. R. McBurney, N. Y.

A. Not as Associations. We are not organized for that purpose. But we should encourage and undertake the work as Christian men, outside of the Association.

2. What is the legitimate work of city Associations—or what special class of young men should receive our attention?

Answered by Geo. A. Hall, Washington, D. C.

A. All young men. I think we should not discriminate. Wherever there are young men without Christ, we ought to labor to lead them to Christ.

3. Do you consider that it would be for the religious benefit of the Y. M. C. A., if ladies were admitted to Associate membership?

Answered by H. Thane Miller.

A. I do think it was never good for man to be alone.

4. How is it best for Associations to counteract the influence of drinking saloons? Are eating houses a success? If so, how are they conducted?

Answered by H. Thane Miller.

A. Well, the eating house last night (viz., the entertainment and collation given the delegates,) was a success, and that is about the only kind that would be under Y. M. C. A. management.

I don't believe that we can conduct eating houses very satisfactorily. At all events we have not succeeded in Cincinnati.

The best way to counteract the influence of saloons is to go in there and drive the devil out. Then throw out other attractions through the Associations.

5. What are the most simple ways for Associations to counteract the social temptations of young men?

Answered by Jas S. Ostrander.

A. I would do just that which I would do in any home. We should not only have religious exercises morning and evening, but we should also have there whatever entertainment can be put in a Christian home.

6. Is it advisable to keep the reading room of the Associations opened on Sunday, provided the janitor or secretary lives in the house, and it will not cause extra work? If so, what kind of reading matter should be left upon the tables?

Answered by Russell Sturgis, Jr.

A. That is a hard question to answer. We in Boston deliberated whether to open on Sunday or not. In this each Association must be guided by the circumstances of its own town. At the Lowell Convention last year the following answer was given to this question: "In the cities, yes; in the country, no!" As to the kind of reading, of course, none but religious and spiritual books; none but books that would lead to Christ.

After singing

"A charge to keep I have,"

the topic for discussion, "*Are the Associations giving sufficient prominence to work for young men employed as clerks in stores and offices,*" was opened by Russell Sturgis, Jr., Boston, Mass., as follows:

MY DEAR FRIENDS, The reason why this question has been put into the Convention is simply this, that in the multitude of avenues of work open to the Association in different parts of the country, and in the great field ripe for those who are ready to labor in the different cities and towns, there have been so many objects of effort placed before the Association that they have gone out and taken hold of them in the spirit of those who felt that they must do any work which they thought would bring glory to the Master. The work carried on by different Associations is very different. It probably varies in every principal city of the land. But in almost every constitution there is an article

relating to membership, which provides that any young man who is "a member in good standing in any Evangelical Church may be an active member of the Association, with the right to vote and to be eligible to office." The membership does not stop there, however; it takes in any other young men of good moral character. Now you will see directly that there are two classes in the Association, those who are already Christians, and those who are not: that is to say, those who have not come into connection with any Evangelical Church.

Now one thing is to be done at the outset. And, dear brethren, let us never forget for an instant that the reason why we stand together as a body is to do a spiritual work. A moral work is well, but in some places we are getting a little of the feeling that Satan will instill wherever he is—"That good morality is good enough," and there is no need for that which is strictly and purely spiritual. The aim of every Association ought to be the direct work of bringing young men to a knowledge of Christ. To give you an idea of the class of young men that are intended especially, we must take you for a moment back many years ago into any one of our country villages. For a young man well bred and tenderly cared for, comes the time to go away from home to the city. Scarcely more than fifty years ago the parent or guardian of such a boy would have arranged that either the employer himself or some one of his friends should have received him into their house. He would very likely have been a guest at his employer's table. In the sight of the family the boy would be his, and he felt a personal responsibility for him.

But a great change has come about. The city has changed and become full of palaces, and stores, and of streets with close, dank air and narrow passages, where squalor and misery live. Its great thoroughfares blaze with every attraction to the young man. And the circumstances of the young man have changed. His employer takes no such interest in him as formerly. He comes to the city with no home ready for him. If only he comes to the store at the proper time, and does the work that is given him to do, there is no further thought given to him, and he leaves the office or the shop to go to the one small room, which, perhaps, he shares with another. Then come the temptations of the glitter and glare of the city. Just at this crisis, when the cry of the young man was, "There is no one to care for my soul," the Lord bared His arm, and the result was the organization which calls us into convention to day. "It was the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes." Satan has in these societies a power working against him.

The young men for whom we are specially to work are those who are not cared for by any other organizations. Where crime makes any man prominent, some institution takes hold of him. There is a home for reforming the drunkard. There is a society to proclaim the Gospel in the prison, and to take care of the prisoner when he is discharged. There is a home for the infirm; but who cares for the well-to-do young man in the store or the counting-house? It is no one's work so much as ours.

And it is the great work that has been given us to do. The means employed are various. In the first place we are becoming so well known now, that when most people in the country are sending their children to the city, they send a letter of introduction to the Association. But we can and must aid them still more by sending circulars to ministers, asking them to say to their people, when any one of their congregation is going to the city, "Come to me, and I will give you a letter of introduction to the Secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association in that place." There is another means. On one of our most

crowded railroads, as you enter Boston, you will find a large placard, so large that it can be easily read, speaking of the Y. M. C. A., giving its address, and asking young men to go there at once on arriving in the city. In all the hotels, and in most of the railway stations along the different lines, are notices telling the same thing. When the young man is already in the city, means must be used to reach him in his store. Notices have been by some of the Associations sent to the different offices, requesting them to come to the rooms. In New York, the clerks in the various lines of business have been asked in turn to meet together in the hall of the Association.

But what kind of attractions can we offer them. It does not do to tell them simply that we have a good prayer-meeting. They do not know anything about the pleasures of the prayer-meeting. There must be attractions. Fill with these attractions the buildings that we are raising one after another in the United States and British Provinces. The parlors should be made not only comfortable, but equal to most of the parlors in the city. Put in them whatever attractions you can introduce *conscientiously*, and each Association must judge of that for itself. One thing we have found to work most admirably is the Gymnasium. We are getting by that means just the men we want to influence. Some of that class, of which that brother in Rhode Island said with such earnestness, "Oh, that something might be done for the sons of the rich, to bring them to Christ!" Then you can have social gatherings. I believe in them in spite of what Brother Hall told us to-day. But our Christian young men should be eager to make the social gathering useful, in leading those who come there to feel how glorious it is to trust in Jesus; how much more blessed it is to live a Christian life than any other life whatever, even in this world.

I have spoken with reference to the class of young men for whom especially these Associations were organized. I have given some of the means by which we may get hold of them and reach them. But the impression I want to leave is this, that we must not forget, while obeying the Lord's call to go among the depraved and outcast, that it is also our special work to labor among these young men for whom no other organization provides.

The Convention then sang—

"Home, sweet home."

The Rev. J. Hyatt Smith, of Brooklyn, offered prayer, at the request of a delegate, for a son who had fallen into intemperate habits.

The discussion was continued by C. W. Hooper, of Selma, Ala.

We have been told how to get hold of the young man, but not how to keep hold of him. I live in a small town of about 8,000 inhabitants. But we have a good many railroads centering here, and a great many young men that come in from the country who are employed as clerks in stores and offices. I will merely give you the history of two or three young men who came to our town and who were brought to my notice.

Mr. H. then told the story of two young men rescued by individual effort, and of one who was led out of a life of evil through the agency of the Association.

John P. Hill, Boonton, N. J. :

MR. PRESIDENT AND FRIENDS:—I am one of those who believe that this organization of the Y. M. C. A. has been almost perfect d. And where it has the full sympathy and co-operation of the people of Christ, it is very successful. The inducements offered by the Association, in every part of the country, to all young men, are very great. But young men connected with these societies need the full and hearty support of merchants and all other employers. Not far from the town where I reside, a short time since the spirit of God seemed to hover over the place. There was no fit place for meeting. A few young men asked permission of one of the merchants to meet in his store after it was closed for the evening. It was in a fine new building. Permission was cheerfully given, with the assurance, "I will be with you." There gathered in this place some sixty or seventy young men of the town. The spirit was poured out upon them, and souls were converted. In another town, during one lecture season, several of the merchants said to their clerks, "We will give you a season ticket, and also the time for you to attend these lectures of the Christian Association." Almost all to whom these tickets were offered were found in their places at the lectures. These instances show the power and advantage of the sympathy of employers. I remember when our army was stationed in front of Petersburg, I passed through the camp one day. Another gentleman was of the party. One of the soldiers, pointing to him, said to me, "There is a man who doesn't know me, but I know him. I was an orphan boy, and when fourteen years of age, was apprenticed out. But I ran away from my master. He caught me and brought me before the Justice of the Peace. While I was there, this man came up to me and put his hand on my shoulder, saying, "My young man, I think the best thing you can do is to go back to this man you have run away from. He will take care of you." I told him I would, and thought to myself, "These are the first kind words I ever heard in my life." The apprentice went back and remained until the war broke out; and there in the army that young man became a true follower of Christ. He lies to-day in a soldier's grave. I have been very much impressed with the power of those "kind words" that were spoken to him on that occasion. I believe in such words and in a good, hearty shake of the hand.

And who are these young men for whom we are laboring all over the land? They are largely those who are obliged to leave their homes and seek employment wherever they can find it.

A young man came to me last evening in the Reception Room and said, "This Association of Poughkeepsie has saved me." I looked upon him and heard more about him a little afterwards as to what he was doing, and how he was living, and I said to myself if this Poughkeepsie Association had never done anything else but save that young man, it had done enough to pay for all the expense it had caused. Most of all, above all what we want to do with them is to take care of them. It is a good work, and all we ask is that we may have the sympathy of the people of God, and then more of these buildings will be erected and souls saved by God's marvellous grace, to be numbered among the children of God.

"One More Year's Work for Jesus,"

was sung by H. Thane Miller, the congregation joining in the chorus, after which the discussion was continued by

Gen. O. O. Howard, Washington, D. C. :

How shall we reach them ? The only way is to keep ourselves near to the Master. A brother told me of a young man in his store who took to drinking. " I wanted to save him " said he, but I failed. He was injuring my trade with my customers. My wife and I prayed to be directed ; I talked to him as I never talked to a man before, and he was converted to Christ, and is now going to be my partner.

H. Thane Miller sang

" The Prodigal Child,"

after which prayer was offered and the Benediction pronounced by the Rev. Lyman Abbott.

THIRD DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.—FRIDAY MORNING.

July 11th.

The Convention was called to order at 9.30 A.M. by the President, H. K. Porter.

" He Leadeth Me,"

was sung, and the Minutes of yesterday's Afternoon and Evening Sessions were read and approved.

It was suggested that the Secretary leave off all titles in the Minutes.

Miscellaneous Business was then taken up. R. K. Remington, Chairman of the Devotional Committee, made some announcements.

F. D. Taylor of the Committee on the Executive Committee's Report, made a partial report, as follows :

Your Committee, to whom was referred the Report of the Executive Committee, (to which was appended the Treasurer's Report,) after careful consideration of the recommendations, beg leave to submit the following resolutions :

1st. Resolved, That the Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces be recommended and urged to observe the second Sunday in November as a day of prayer for God's blessing upon the work of these organizations throughout the world, and upon all efforts put forth for the salvation of young men.

2d. Resolved, That a sum of not less than seven thousand dollars be raised for the prosecution of the general work of the coming year.

3d. Resolved, That the Executive Committee be authorized to continue the employment of a General Secretary, and such other agents as the money in their hands may warrant for the prosecution of their work.

4th. Resolved, That the Corresponding Members of the Executive Committee

be positively directed to call a Convention of the Associations on their field during the year, in all cases where provision is not made for one by some other local authority; and as either by death or absolute refusal to perform the functions of Corresponding Member, the work may be retarded in certain States, it is hereby directed that in such cases the office of Corresponding Member be declared vacant, and the International Executive Committee appoint a new Corresponding Member.

5th. *Resolved*, That the preparation of the Association Manual be recommitteed to the Executive Committee, and that it be prepared and published as soon as they shall feel that the work is sufficiently matured to justify it.

6th. *Whereas*, In the judgment of the Executive Committee, it is impossible, and therefore they have ceased to publish the Association *Monthly*; and, *whereas*, they have arranged that all items of Association news until further notice appear in the *Illustrated Christian Weekly*,² therefore *resolved*, that this Convention endorse the action of the Executive Committee and recommend that all Associations subscribe for said weekly journal.

Its acceptance was moved and carried.

H. Thane Miller moved that the articles of the Report be taken up *seriatim* and adopted. Carried. The first resolution was on motion of W. J. Cooke adopted. The second resolution was the occasion of some discussion in regard to the amount of the expenditures for the year and the amount collected (which was stated at two-thirds of that subscribed), from the subscriptions of the Associations. The discussion was participated in by W. H. Anderson, W. J. Cooke, Cephas Brainerd, R. K. Remington and C. S. Wright. A suggestion to read the names of the Associations delinquent in regard to the payment of their subscriptions was discussed, but not adopted. The third resolution was adopted on motion of Vice-President Sheriff E. C. Thomas. The fourth resolution was adopted on motion of Chas. B. Morris. The consideration of the fifth resolution was, on motion of F. H. Smith, deferred until the close of Topic No. 8 assigned for discussion this afternoon. Cephas Brainerd desired to supplement the last (6) resolution by allowing the Executive Committee to make some other arrangements with another paper, if in their judgment it is deemed necessary. Upon Mr. Brainerd's being informed that the resolution included this, he said that that construction of it was satisfactory. On motion of A. L. Kelly it was adopted. On motion of E. A. Hutchins, Lyman Abbott was allowed to make a statement to the Convention in reference to the *Christian Weekly*.

Rev. Lyman Abbott:

I only wish to say on behalf of the proprietors and publishers of the *Chris-*

tian Weekly a word in regard to the arrangement they have made with your Executive Committee, by which this paper becomes the organ of the Associations, and a gentleman appointed by them is added to the editorial corps of the *Weekly*. This arrangement is made with the hope that it will add to the influence of the paper in our common cause—the cause of Christ.

As the editor of the paper, I take this occasion to say that I will be exceedingly glad to receive your coöperation and your assistance in making it more useful to the cause of Christ as an instrument in your hands. This is what we wish to do with the *Christian Weekly*, to make it such a power that you can use it in your work. Whatever you can do to help us to make it more useful in thus promoting the cause of Christ in your various fields, we hope you will do. May I suggest then, in the first place, that incidents of Christian life and of Christian activity will always be welcomed by us, things that go from the heart to the heart. We get the reports of Convention speeches and other details, but a thousand interesting facts which come up never get into the newspapers. In the second place, we have a department of ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS, which is like your Question Box. We shall be glad to receive questions from the members of the various Associations and their friends touching Christian work and experience, Biblical interpretation or anything affecting the work or the organization of Christian Associations. The editor pledges himself to do what he can to put these questions into the hands of those most competent to answer them. I hope in the coming year that we may unite firmly the Y. M. C. A. which represents the progressive element of the work, and the American Tract Society which may have been thought to represent the conservative element of the Church, and it is our prayer that those two bodies may be effectively united in work for the Lord Jesus Christ.

Cephas Brainerd, New York:

I don't think any of the members of the Convention who know me will suppose that I assented very heartily to the changes we have made. I think most of them will remember that at various times since the *Monthly* was established, I have made a very vigorous sort of fight, both in the Convention and elsewhere, in behalf of it. But we found that through the agency of the *Weekly*, as was said in the Report, we could reach ten or fifteen times as many people with the Association News as we reached through the *Monthly*. I propose to do all I can to get that news through the *Weekly* before the country. The thing that Associations need and have always needed, is to have a statement of their work and the principles upon which it proceeds, with the facts in regard to their progress placed before the community, in order to promote their growth far more rapidly than it has been promoted in the past. There has always been a misunderstanding in the Associations in regard to the amount of work they have done and in regard to their progress. Now, brethren, let us hear from your best men; let us get the facts in this way before the community and thus make our work understood as it has never been understood before. How many people understand, how many editors of religious papers who represent the Associations as retrograding, understand that there are Christian laymen in large driving business, men who would work nights in their secular affairs, who occupy both their nights and days, as my brother in Massachusetts has, in this great cause, and at their own expense of time and money, and that the number of these men is increasing year after year?

How many understand, all over the country, the immense amount of work that has been done by the laymen of Nova Scotia? Perhaps not one-tenth. How many know of the real and encouraging progress that has been made the past year? Then let us have it through these papers; let us bring it up through the *Weekly*, until the people understand that it is a fact, a living substantial fact, that there are 150,000 Christian young men banded together in America, and led by men such as I have been speaking; and that what we need is the support of the clergy, and the support of the praying and the wealthy members of the church to secure this Continent for the Master. Let us come up brethren to an apprehension of the magnitude and glory of this work. Let us grasp it in the might of the Master, who by and by when the strife is over, when the victory is won here, shall welcome us to the repose of tireless labor, to the unending joy of communion and fellowship with Him. Labor shall be nothing then. Strife and struggle will but add to the felicities of that world above.

After a moment of silent prayer, Charles M. Wilcox offered prayer audibly, and

“Stand up, Stand up for Jesus,”
was sung.

Subscriptions to the General Fund of the Executive Committee then being in order, the matter was taken up, and, on motion of E. A. Hutchins, the roll was called and subscriptions were taken amounting to \$3,627.50.

	<i>Expenses.</i>	<i>Copies of Proceedings.</i>
Amsterdam, New York	\$10	1
Augusta, Ga.	10	
Aurora, Ill.	25	1
Baltimore, Md.	100	25
Blackstone, Mass.	5	3
Boonton, N. J.	20	1
Boston, Mass.	200	10
Do. (G. H. Shaw)	10	
Do. Higlanda.	5	1
Bristol, R. I.	30	10
Brooklyn, E. D.	20	10
Brookville, Penn.	15	
Burlington, Vt.	10	
Bristol, Pa.	10	
Carlisle, Pa.	15	4
Charlotte, Vt.		2
Chelsea, Mass.	5	
Cincinnati, O.	200	10
Do. (T. S. Johnston)	20	
Cleveland, O.	100	20
Concord, N. H.	10	2
Dayton, O.	25	2
Detroit, Mich.	25	10
Easton, Pa.	5	1
Elmore, O.	10	1
Fall River, Mass.	100	5
Fitchburg, Mass.	10	6
Frankford, Pa.	20	5
Frederick City, Md.	20	5
Do. (H. K. Carmack)	5	

Gardner, Mass.....	10	5
Gettysburg, Pa (Penn. Coll.)		2
Goshen, N. Y.....	0	
Grand Rapids, Mich.....	15	5
Greenpoint, N. Y.....	10	
Hagerstown, Md.....	10	4
Halifax, N. S.....	50	5
Hamilton, Ca.....	10	5
Do. (Sheriff Thomas).....	5	
Hamilton, Ohio.....	2	
Holden, Mass.....	10	
Howard University, Washington, D. C.....	5	5
Ingersoll, Ca.....	5	
Jersey City, N. J.....	20	2
Johnstown, Pa.....	10	4
Lebanon, Pa.....	1	1
Leominster, Mass.....	5	1
Leicester, ".....	10	1
Lowell, ".....	20	5
Lowell, ".....	15	

FOR ADDITIONS TO THIS LIST SEE *ERRATA*.

New York.....	500	
Do. (John Dooly).....	5	
Do. (Edward Colgate).....	25	
Do. (G. H. Allen).....	10	
Do. ————.....	15	
Do. ————.....	50	
New York Eastern Branch.....	15	
Olivet, Mich.....	10	
Do. (F. D. Taylor, Detroit).....	5	
Orange, Mass.....	25	
Orange, N. J.....	10	2
Philadelphia, Pa.....		50
Pittsburgh, Pa.....	250	3
Plainfield, N. J.....	Same as last year.	
Port Hope, Canada.....	10	5
Portland, Me.....	Same as last year.	
Providence, R. I.....	40	6
Poughkeepsie, N. Y.....	30	3
Do. (———).....	3	
Do. (Mr. Fox).....	10	
Roanoke College, Salem, Va.....	10	3
Rockport, Mass.....	5	2
Do. R. Sturgis, Jr., of Boston.....	10	
Do. M. B. Critchett, of Concord, N. H.....	25	
Rochester, Minn. (N. T.).....	5	2
Rome, N. Y.....	10	10
Do. (H. S. Nide).....	10	

Rutland, Mass	5	
Salem, Mass	24	
Schenectady, N. Y	15	2
Scranton, Pa	15	4
Selma, Ala	40	10
Shippensburg, Pa	5	
Somerville, Mass	25	
Do. (H. M. Moore)	15	
South Deerfield, Mass	10	
St. John, N. B	25	2
Do. (E. T. C. Knowles)	5	
St. Johnsbury, Vt	10	2
St. Paul, Minn	Same as last year.	
Springfield, Mass. (J. A. Case)	25	2
Spencer, Mass	10	2
Syracuse, N. Y	Same as last year.	5
Toledo, Ohio	25	10
Toronto, Can	10	5
G. H. Allen, New York	5	
Trenton, N. J	20	
Truro, N. S	Same as last year.	
Do. (J. H. Kent)	3	
Do. (William Cummings)	5	
Tunkhannock, Penn	10	
Walden, N. Y	10	
Washington, D. C	150	10
Westerly, R. I	5	2
Westfield, Mass	10	
Williamsport, Pa	25	10
Wincooski, Vt	Same as last year.	2
Do. (H. Paddock)	5	
Worcester, Mass	50	10
Do. (C. D. Tucker)	5	
Do. (Cash)	5	
York, Penn	25	2

Several tokens, &c., were contributed to be sold to the highest bidder. E. P. Woods moved the postponement of the taking of further subscriptions to another time. Carried.

A communication was received from Mayor Eastman, of Poughkeepsie, as follows :

MAYOR'S OFFICE,
POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y., July 11, 1873. }

To the President Y.M.C.A. International Convention :

DEAR SIR :—It will give me pleasure to have the members and friends of your Convention present at the regular weekly concert, given at my grounds this evening, commencing at 6½ o'clock.

Very respectfully,

H. G. EASTMAN.

On motion of G. H. Allen, it was moved and carried that the invitation be accepted ; and that the Secretary be requested to acknowledge its receipt, and return the thanks of the Convention.

G. A. Hall, of Washington, made announcements of Open-Air Meetings.

The Chairman of the Business Committee reported as follows :

FRIDAY AFTERNOON.—Prayer Meeting at 2½ P. M., led by Wm. Stickney, of Washington, D. C.

3 P. M.—Reading of Minutes, Communications.

Discussion on Topic No. 8, introduced by F. H. Smith, Washington, D. C. An address of fifteen minutes, followed by delegates till 4 P. M. Hearing of Reports from Smaller Associations for one hour. Reports of Special Committees ; Unfinished Business ; Adjournment. Adopted.

After singing doxology the Convention adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION.—FRIDAY, JULY 18TH.

The Convention was called to order by President H. K. Porter, and the hymn

“Children of the Heavenly King”

was then sung. Professor Johnson, of Philadelphia, presided at the melodeon. Minutes of the Morning Session were read and approved.

Two communications were read from Dayton, O.,—one from the Ministers of the City, and the other from Thos. G. Davis, Corresponding Secretary of the Dayton Y. M. C. A.—inviting the holding of the next International Convention in that place, as follows :—

H. P. ADAMS, Supt. Y. M. C. A., Dayton, Ohio :

DEAR BROTHER :—In reply to your expressed desire to know the sense of the Ministerial Association as to the propriety of inviting the International Convention of the Y. M. C. A. to hold its next session in this City, I am happy to say it was the unanimous opinion that such invitation should be given, and the Secretary was directed to append the names of members of this body thereto, as follows :

JOHN McVEY, First Pres. Church,
J. H. MONTGOMERY, Third St. Church.
J. L. RUSSELL, Park Church,
J. R. HUGHES, Memorial Church,
A. C. JUNKIN, Fourth Church,
J. B. HELWIG, First Lutheran Church,
D. VAN HORNE, First Reformed,
H. F. COLBY, First Baptist,
D. M. WEDDELL, Wayne St. Baptist,

F. CLATWORTHY, Linden Av. Baptist,
M. A. RICHARDS, Grace M. E. Church,
T. COLLETT, Raper Chapel Church,
J. T. SHORT, Davisson Chapel Church,
C. BRIGGS, First United Brethren,
J. P. LANDIS, Howe St. do
M. J. DENNIS, Christian Church,
W. F. DICKERMAN, Methodist Church,
WM. EARNSHAW, Chap. Soldiers' Home.

June 30th, 1873.

C. BRIGGS, Sec., *Min. Assn.*,
Dayton, Ohio.

ROOMS OF THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.
27 NORTH MAIN STREET, JOURNAL BUILDING.

DAYTON, O., July, 1873.

To the International Convention of Y. M. C. A. in Session at Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

DEAR BROTHERS IN CHRIST:—At a meeting of the Y. M. C. A. of Dayton, Ohio, held July 2d, '73, it was unanimously resolved to extend to you our Christian greetings, and a cordial invitation to hold your next annual session in our city. The hospitality of the city shall be yours. Warm hearts will welcome you and willing hands do all they possibly can to make your stay pleasant.

It gives me pleasure to enclose a similar invitation from the Ministers' Association of this city.

H. E. PARROTT, *President.*

THOS. D. DAVIS, *Cor. Secretary.*

Also, one from James S. Ostrander, General Secretary, Newark, N. J., inviting the holding of the Convention there, as follows:

POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y., July 10, 1873.

To the Committee Y. M. C. A. International Convention of the United States and Provinces:

The Young Men's Christian Association and Citizens of the City of Newark, N. J., earnestly and unanimously invite the holding of the next Convention of the International Y. M. C. A. Convention in the City of Newark, N. J., promising you a cordial and hearty welcome.

JAMES S. OSTRANDER, Newark, N. J.

R. R. McBurney moved that the Associations extending the invitation be allowed ten minutes each for the presentation of their claims. Carried.

H. P. Adams, of Dayton, Ohio, and J. S. Ostrander, of Newark, N. J., presented the claims of their respective places.

Mr. ADAMS having occupied but half of the time assigned to Dayton,

H. Thane Miller, by request, occupied the remainder of the time urging the claims of that place.

W. H. Anderson moved that the next International Convention of the Y. M. C. A. be held at Dayton, Ohio. Carried by a large majority.

On motion of J. S. Ostrander, the vote was made unanimous.

N. D. Cross, Chairman of Committee on Resolutions, was given permission to present a special report, as follows:

The Convention, fully recognizing the wide-spread and terrible influence of pernicious literature, and the importance of taking earnest and vigorous measures to counteract it, is of the opinion that it belongs to the members of individual Associations to determine what measures are best adapted to this purpose in their respective localities. This Convention, therefore, refers the

whole subject to them, earnestly recommending them to do all in their power to destroy the influence of pernicious literature, and for this purpose to call public attention to, and awaken public interest in this subject by promoting discussions through the press and the pulpit, to use their personal influence with railroad corporations and news dealers to stop the sale of pernicious books and papers, and with all families, and especially all young men within their influence, to stop the purchase thereof, and to do all in their power to enlarge the efficiency of their reading rooms and libraries, and otherwise to promote the circulation of a healthful Christian literature.

J. H. Gleason moved its acceptance. Carried.

G. H. Allen moved its adoption. Carried.

“Soldiers of Christ”

Was sung.

F. H. Smith, of Washington, D. C., opened the discussion of topic No. 8: “Is there danger that the Associations will become the medium of unscriptural teachings, or engage in political controversies? If so, what action is necessary to guard against it?” He said:

I have not been able, Mr. President, in the consideration that I have given to this topic in my own mind, to answer definitely the question which is propounded. The past at least is secure. In the more than twenty years of Association existence in this country, there has not, so far as I am aware, been a single defection in this direction of any material consequence. Nor is there anything, so far as I am aware, in the present condition of our Association, to give any apprehension or alarm in that regard. And the question whether the history of other religious Associations makes it wise for this Association, for this Convention, at this period, to take any precautions in that regard, is one that we ought perhaps to give our serious consideration, and one to which I propose to address a few suggestions in this connection, in the hope that the discussion that may follow by brethren here may settle the question to the satisfaction of all.

In the outpouring of the Holy Spirit occurring just after the ascension of our Lord, when hundreds and thousands were brought suddenly into the kingdom, and in the enthusiasm which followed that outpouring, history tells us that there was no very formal organization of the Christians. The brethren held everything in common, remembering only the blessed spoken words of Him who had just then left the earth, who spake as never man spake. They entered into the work of converting men simply to the cause of their risen Saviour. But in succeeding years, when the number of friends began to greatly multiply, and the Church, composed of those who were then the followers of Jesus, became a power in the land, there began to creep in heresies and doctrines that were not in accordance with the teachings of Christ, and these were taught among the Christians. Unscrupulous and wicked men sought to lay hold of the power which this early Christian Church exercised, so that it became necessary for the Apostles to reduce to writing the doctrine taught by the Saviour; to make provision against these unsound doctrines which were sought to be brought upon the Church. And I think that has been the experience of every religious organization from that time until this.

Now it seems to me, brethren, that there is, to a certain extent, an analogy between the history of the Y. M. C. A. in this country and the history of those early Christians. The conventions of the Y. M. C. A. in the United States and British Provinces to a very large extent have repeated the experience of that Pentecostal season. The spirit has been poured out upon this body to an almost overwhelming extent, and the young men have gone hence so filled with the spirit, so filled with enthusiasm, that they have gone to work and have not cared what church they filled up, having no fear, no care for anything except to secure the same outpouring of God's spirit in their own places. And young men, hearing of these meetings, have desired above all things to organize a Y. M. C. A. in their towns. A great many Associations have been organized with very little idea of the practical work and mission they were to perform, with very little idea of anything except that the Y. M. C. A. was necessary in order to have the glorious good times that we have had in these conventions.

Now, then, Mr. President, this Association has not always had smooth sailing. Almost every debate we have had here in this convention, and in all conventions, has brought out the fact that in all the cities and the towns in which our Associations are located, there is a certain amount of apprehension on the part of a portion of the Christian people that our Associations are in some future time to grow up to be something more than has been their intention, or is their intention now. Expressions of apprehension have been heard that these Associations have no creed, no particular organization, and that they may be taken hold of by political parties, and made the medium of political controversies. I remember, in the city in which I live, some years ago, in calling on one of the pastors of one of the most prominent churches, who had just then come among us, I asked him to identify himself with our organization. He replied that for a year or two he had been actively identified with the Association in the city where he lived, but that he had become satisfied from the action of that Association that it was made the medium of political aspirants in that city, and that, on looking over the whole field, he was satisfied that the Y. M. C. A. of this country would ultimately become a great political power or combination, and nothing else.

Now, I need not tell this Convention that the apprehension of that clergyman had no foundation in fact. I tried to convince him that it had no foundation, that our individual Association and the Associations combined in this Convention had taken every precaution that was possible to guard against such a result. And yet it seemed to make no impression upon him, and from that day to this he has held the same opinion.

A still larger number of ministers and of Christians have had the impression that in some way or other the organization of these Associations within the churches would ultimately alienate the affections of members.

There has also been an apprehension that these organizations growing into power, getting the fostering care of the churches, and including in their members the best men and material of the churches, would ultimately become the medium of designing persons to spread unscriptural and infidel teaching. My individual opinion is, that there is no present or future danger of this taking place. And yet, all of us are aware that these apprehensions do exist; that they prevent our taking that complete hold of the community which these Associations ought to take; that they prevented in many important cities and localities Associations from being organized or conducted at all to such an extent as our mission requires. It seems to me a serious question for us to consider, whether

there is anything that we as a Convention can do in our organized action, to alleviate these apprehensions, which to so great extent prevent the Associations from accomplishing the full measure of their work.

I believe in this organization, and I honor these Associations, and hope to live to see the day when they shall be recognized by the church in every city in our whole broad land as fully as the Sabbath-schools are recognized; when there shall be no more question as to their propriety than there is to the existence of the Bible and Tract Societies, or any one of our great organizations. Let us aim to give, in and out of this Convention, by our words and deeds, permanent, definite and absolute light to these ministers and Christians, and to this whole community, as to the objects of our societies and the real harmony of our relations to the churches.

President H. K. Porter suggested the singing of the hymn,

"Jesus keep me near the cross,"

after which G. H. Griffin offered prayer.

The next business was the taking up of the Fifth Resolution of the Committee on the Executive Committee's Report, in regard to the preparation of the Association Manual.

F. H. Smith:

I want to move that the recommendatory clause in the resolution be stricken out, and that "peremptorily directed during the coming year" be inserted. The Convention will remember that, one year ago, by a unanimous vote, the committee was requested to prepare and publish this manual through the coming year. It seems to me that the action of the Convention should be made a little stronger. As long ago as the Indianapolis Convention (1870) I was requested to take into consideration the propriety of preparing a statement of what is the legitimate work, duties, and restrictions connected with the Y. M. C. A., to be issued as an authoritative statement by this Convention. The matter has been put off from time to time, until a year ago, when the committee were directed to prepare and publish this manual. It is to be a collection of the resolutions of the various Conventions in regard to our relations to the Church, to Christian work, to political reform, temperance, and other organizations, and it is to describe generally what are the sphere, functions, objects, &c., of Y. M. C. A. I offer the following resolution as a substitute:

Resolved, That the preparation of the Association Manual be recommitted to the Executive Committee, with *peremptory directions* that it be prepared and published during the coming year.

F. D. Taylor:

It seems to me the original resolution covers the ground. It is not a peremptory direction to the committee, but recommends them, if they have got the money that warrants them to publish, to go ahead and do it.

W. M. Martin:

It is a subject of very great importance. We have not a digest of the different regulations of this body. We are constantly, at our conventions, annoyed at delegates getting up here with regard to this and that rule. The older Associations are constantly beset with correspondence. It is impossible for me to answer letters from different parts of the country asking for information. A digest would give this if put into the hands of the members of the Associations.

James Buchanan, Trenton, N. J. :

I think the Committee can be entirely trusted in this matter. I think it would add more force, character and effect to the statement, if it were put forth under the express and direct sanction of the Convention. And it is very essential that we do not put anything upon record that shall speak for us without the highest sanction and after the most careful preparation.

Cephas Brainerd :

The Committee do not feel justified in presenting any lengthy summary of the voice of the Associations upon all these points. And I am glad that this discussion has taken this turn, because I think it is feared that it might be premature. The Committee has always had, ever since its formation six years ago, a little pamphlet stating all that is necessary as to the mode of organizing, manner of carrying on the work, etc., etc. It has been at the service of any one, being gratuitously circulated. In five different little pamphlets on various points in the work, we have sought to enlighten everybody who wanted any information.

Are we ready now to make authoritative declaration upon all these topics? I think this is a very serious question. It is also to be considered whether we have the money for this publication, or whether these smaller papers will answer for the present all the purposes of the members.

T. K. Earle, Worcester, Mass. :

I should say *emphatically*, that the time has not come for us to put forth such a document.

John C. Havemeyer, New York City :

Can the exact terms of the original resolution be given us?

The resolution of the Committee was read by the Secretary.

Robert Weidensall :

One of the things which makes it easier for me to organize an Association, is to tell them that the Associations of the United States merely ask their active members to belong to Evangelical Churches. If I should give them a set of rules I could not organize one Association where I count ten now. I would say, instead of publishing new books, take the resolutions in succession and put them into the proceedings of this Convention.

O. O. Howard :

Is not really the meaning of this simply to give our members the resolutions of the Conventions as they stand on the records?

Jas. S. Ostrander, of Newark, N. J. :

It is not the intention to incorporate in that manual a number of resolutions that have been made by individuals and that are not endorsed by the Convention.

Mr. Brainerd in response to these questions, read the original resolutions in reference to the compilation of the Manual.

Jas. Buchanan moved that the recommending clause in the Resolution be stricken out, and that the subject be referred back to the Executive Committee. Carried.

After singing

“Am I a Soldier of the Cross,”

the hearing of Reports from small Associations being in order, John S. Reeder reported from Hamilton, O., proposing the raising of a fund for the support of small Associations, the money to be put into the Executive Committee's hands.

On motion of Wm. H. Horner, the time for each report was limited to two minutes.

G. H. Griffin, Milford, Conn. :

I represent a small Association. Three things trouble us. Want of sympathy on the part of the people, lack of funds from the people and from the members who have pledged themselves to pay their annual dues, and the want of provision for our reading-room. We have, too, a great proportion of drones in the hive. How are we to engage these idlers in active work ?

J. H. Gleason, Holden, Mass. :

Our town has 2,000 inhabitants. The Association is six years old. We are large enough to support weekly and monthly meetings, and three Mission Sabbath Schools. Our members are alive to the work. We are entirely out of debt, but have no building of our own.

C. H. Wilson, Frankford, Pa. :

Our great trouble, and the one in all small Associations, has been mentioned. We have nearly two hundred members. Only a few labor for the Association. The beginning of the Society was very feeble. It was soon given up. We at length reorganized it with four members. We worked faithfully, made it a matter of prayer for a week, and at the end we had twenty-three. Then I suggested our joining the Mission Prayer Meeting, which was dying out. We did so, and it was put under the auspices of the Y. M. C. Association. The first meeting numbered a thousand people. Soon we began collecting money for a building. We had been meeting in a small room on the third story. Now we own a building worth about \$12,000. This has been accomplished during a single year.

W. W. Anderson, Charlottetown, Prince Edwards Island :

I want to say a little about the work in our island. Just before I left, a young minister told me of a little Association at Highfield, one of the worst places on the island. Last winter a glorious revival was enjoyed. This was due, under God, to the efforts of the Y. M. C. A. there. In the large Association of Charlottetown, which I represent, there are about two hundred members on the roll, but only about fifty men at work. We are soon to dedicate a new building, and I hope that our friends in the States will come over and help us.

William Wells, Schenectady, N. Y. :

Some five or six years ago our Society was founded. We have now a fund of \$5,000 for a building, and yesterday afternoon, at four o'clock, the corner stone was laid. The edifice will cost \$50,000. We have made a very considerable effort in the line of suppressing pernicious literature. Union College is located in our town, and we have a great many from the College, and if we have a reading-room and library can do a good work.

J. E. Page, Howard University (colored):

The Society of which I am a member was organized in 1869. Many of our members take part in the Sabbath Schools, held in different parts of the district, and a great deal of good has been accomplished under the auspices of the Association.

M. A. Bullock, Olivet College, Michigan :

We have thirty active members. The work is chiefly missionary. We support a few Sabbath Schools, and in our College have had a live and earnest Saturday evening prayer meeting, also a Sunday afternoon prayer meeting, conducted by the young men.

H. H. Otto, Williamsport, Pa. :

Our Association is small, but we held four open-air meetings last Sunday, and prayed for this Convention. We also hold a Bible class and a prayer meeting in the rooms on Saturday evening. We are enlisting both young and old into this great work of the Master. A good many cottage prayer meetings are held every week, probably eight. We have been blessed in rescuing from the gutter those who to-day are preaching the Gospel.

The time for the hearing of these reports having expired, C. S. Brooks moved that it be extended twelve minutes. Carried.

J. D. Dreher, Roanoke College, Salem, Va. :

Ours is a College Association, with a small membership. We hold evening meetings ; have an annual oration during commencement week ; have a small library ; no building yet ; but we meet in one of the lecture rooms of the institution. During the last two years a great deal of interest has been taken in the meetings of our Association, and they have resulted in great good among the students of the College.

A. J. Howe, Montpelier, Vt. :

God has blessed our Association. It is a small band among the mountains, numbering less than twenty, but they have sustained during the past year a prayer meeting, and a revival has followed.

W. S. Herbert, Hagerstown, Md. :

I am a member of a small Association. We hold two open-air meetings, one in the Alms House and one in the jail. We have a fine room, open day and evening till ten o'clock. A number of the young men of the town are gathered in by the members. We have a good library. Our members have stepped into the drinking saloons and taken men away from the counter, taken the glass of liquor from their hands, and have been the means of leading many away from a drunkard's doom.

H. A. Spencer, Montpelier, Vt. :

I am one of the representatives of the Association of which Mr. Howe is the most active member. We have a small membership; hold weekly prayer meetings; conduct four mission schools, the nearest of which is three miles from the village, and the most distant seven miles.

C. M. Wilcox, New London, Conn :

We have about fifteen workers, a reading room, and a building fund of \$2,000. Last year we bought and paid for a church which had been abandoned. It cost \$3,000 or \$4,000. We are trying to secure a building. We carry forward, weekly, eight prayer meetings and open-air services.

J. P. Lane, of Bristol, R.I. :

About a dozen of our members are very active. We have a reading room, and library numbering about 2000 volumes; have added the last nine months \$150 worth of books. Our Association in Bristol has the earnest coöperation of the pastors of the place, and they decided this year to send one of their number as a delegate to the Convention, and I believe, as a pastor of the Church, that there is work for the Y. M. C. A. to do in other places which cannot be done by any other organization so well.

A. L. Haddam, Harlem Branch, New York :

We have prayer meeting services each Sunday, and after the meeting we distribute tracts and circulars. After the services we try and follow up the work by seeking conversation with the bystanders, and inviting them to the rooms of the Association.

M. B. Critchett, of Concord, N. H. :

What is to be done with the drones in our Association? I believe, Mr. President, they should be set at work. We have 161 active members. We hold four prayer meetings. Twenty or twenty-five of our members go to the district meetings every week. We find that the Christian life of our young men depends on this work. They go from three to five miles out of the city, find that the meetings are interesting, and come back to speak of the interest manifested. Members of the Association are quickened by the story, and the request comes from many to the committee, "Can I go to this meeting?" So we get two or three of these drones and set them at work.

C. E. Millspaugh, Goshen, N. Y. :

We find a great many young men in the churches doing nothing, and take these young men to our Associations and set them at work. In the course of about one year we numbered some 18 or 20 young men laboring earnestly and faithfully to win souls to Christ. It is one of the prominent features of our work to take young men by the hand and put them into active service.

"Rescue the perishing"

was then sung, and C. E. Brooks offered prayer.

Geo. A. Young, Chairman of the Business Committee, reported as follows :

FRIDAY EVENING.

ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

The Convention will assemble at the Opera House at 8 P. M. Devotional exercises led by Rev. J. S. Ostrander, Newark, N. J. A praise meeting led by W. Johnson, Philadelphia.

Short addresses will be delivered on the following subjects :

1. "The condition of heart necessary to the rendering of acceptable praise," by John W. Lapsley, Selma, Alabama; M. H. Hodder, London, England; J. J. Joyce, Jr., Philadelphia.

2. "The unrenewed heart cannot praise God," T. McC. Stewart, Howard University; S. J. Bates, Guelph, Ont.; W. R. Perce, Providence, R. I.

3. "Those only can praise Him in heaven who have learned to praise Him on earth," H. P. Adams, Dayton, Ohio; Wm. Roche, Jr., Halifax, N. S.; H. M. Moore, Somerville, Mass.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION.

Praise meeting for one hour in this church, beginning at 8½ o'clock, conducted by Rev. S. A. Taggart, Pittsburgh, assisted by Professor Wm. Johnson, Philadelphia. Reading of minutes. Miscellaneous business. Answers to questions in question drawer for 30 minutes. Reports from Associations in three minute addresses, as far as possible confined to the smaller and newer Associations, for the remainder of the session. Adjournment.

This report, upon motion of W. J. Cooke, was adopted.

The Chairman of the Devotional Committee then made some announcements, and after singing

"I love Thy kingdom, Lord,"

the Benediction was pronounced by Jas. P. Lane, and the Convention adjourned.

EVENING SESSION.—FRIDAY.

The Convention was called to order by the President, and "Come, thou fount of every blessing," was sung. Opening exercises were conducted by the Rev. Jas. S. Ostrander. A Praise Meeting for the next thirty minutes was led by W. Johnson, of Philadelphia, Pa., at the close of which short addresses were delivered on the following subjects: I. "The condition of the heart necessary to the rendering of acceptable praise;" opened by J. W. Lapsley, Selma, Alabama. Singing, "Depth of mercy can there be." The Convention then sung, "Blest be the tie that binds," upon the introduction of M. H. Hodder, of London, Eng. And after singing the "Lord will provide," J. J. Joyce, Jr., of Phila-

delphia, followed in a closing address upon this subject. Singing, "O for a heart to praise my God," when the second subject,—II. "The unrenewed heart cannot praise God,"—was opened with an address from T. McC. Stewart, of Howard University. After singing the hymn "There is a fountain filled with blood," S. S. Bates, of Guelph, Ontario, followed; when "Behold a stranger at the door," was sung, and W. R. Perce closed the addresses on this subject. H. P. Adams, of Dayton, O., opened the third subject,—"Those only can praise in heaven who have learned to praise on earth,"—and it was closed by H. M. Moore, of Somerville, Mass. H. Thane Miller sang "Almost persuaded now to believe," and "There are angels hovering around," and Mr. Moore offered prayer. The Benediction was then pronounced by J. S. Ostrander, and the Convention adjourned.

FOURTH DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

SATURDAY, *July 12, 1873.*

The Convention was called to order by the President. After singing "Soldiers of Christ arise," the minutes of the afternoon and evening sessions of yesterday were read, corrected and approved.

R. K. Remington, Chairman of the Devotional Committee, made some announcements, and was followed by N. D. Cross, of Alabama, Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, who made the following report:

The Committee on Resolutions report that after careful consideration they deem it inexpedient to adopt the following resolutions:

1. Relating to the relations between Associations and the Church, as the same is covered by a resolution of the Portland Convention. See Proceeding 1869, p. 101.

2. Relating to open-air meetings, as covered by resolution of the Portland Convention. See Proceedings 1869, p. 101.

3. Relating to Temperance, as covered by resolutions of Detroit Convention. See Proceedings 1869, p. 98.

4. Relating to the appointment of a Special Committee for the organization of Associations in colleges and universities. In the opinion of the Committee this end can be best reached through the agency of the Executive Committee of the Convention.

5. Relating to the age of members. In the opinion of the Committee it is most expedient that such questions be left to the decision of individual Associations.

6. Relating to opening Reading Rooms on Sabbath. In the opinion of the Committee no general rule can be laid down on this subject, and it therefore recommends that it be left to each Association to determine as its circumstances may require.

7. Relating to the subject of holding a World's Convention of Y. M. C. A. during the Centennial Celebration in Philadelphia in 1876. Your Committee recommends that this subject be referred to the International Executive Committee with instructions to report the conclusions at which it may arrive to the next Annual Convention.

On motion the report was received and adopted.

C. B. Morris moved that "we proceed to call again the list of Associations, and that they be requested to respond liberally." After a short discussion by D. W. Glass, H. M. Moore, E. A. Hutchins, and R. R. McBurney, D. W. Glass moved that "All who had not subscribed be requested to come to the stand and do so." The amendment was accepted and carried. The Convention then proceeded to the regular order of business, viz. :— The consideration of questions found in the question box :

1. How much liberty should a General Secretary of long experience be allowed in leaving local work to address audiences in the country ?

Answered by H. Thane Miller :

A. If he has this long experience, just give him the greatest liberty that you can allow him.

2. Should members be called active who are Christians, yet never engage in the active work of the Y. M. C. A. ?

Answered by Mr. Miller :

A. I will not say a word to this.

3. Should ladies be admitted as members in small Associations ?

By H. Thane Miller :

A. By all means.

4. Ought the temperance pledge to be a part of the Constitution of the Y. M. C. A. ?

By Mr. Miller :

A. I think not.

5. How shall we leave the most blessed influences in the families where we are entertained, and how get the greatest good from our stay with them ?

By Mr. Miller :

A. By our consistent Christian living with them ; by our communion with them in prayer and conversation about the Saviour.

6. Is it advisable, in small Associations, for one man to be president and corresponding secretary, or hold any *two* offices ?

By Mr. Miller:

A. No.

7. Is it well to argue with skeptics or infidels when we meet them, and wish to speak to them concerning Jesus?

By Mr. Miller:

A. I would speak to them without arguing.

8. How may these societies best help young men to self-culture?

S. A. Taggart:

A. The question is too comprehensive.

9. What is the duty of Associations towards those who call at the rooms asking for pecuniary aid to buy food or a railroad ticket to carry them to the next city or town?

C. B. Morris:

A. If you have any doubts about it, don't give money, give tickets.

10. What can be done to prevent young men, who enter our colleges and universities, from falling into temptations offered by new Associations.

Answered by M. N. Bullock:

A. I should say, endeavor to throw around them Christian social influences, mingle Christian and social culture.

11. Ought our Associations to appropriate funds for benevolent purposes to the use of Employment Committees, or superintendents of the Employment Department?

Answered by R. K. Remington:

A. Most certainly, if you have an abundance of money, easily obtained, of course appropriate it for all those good purposes.

12. How far are we justified in assisting young men? By helping them too much, when they won't help themselves, they are apt to presume on Christian kindness, and are pampered in their evil courses?

Answered by E. A. Hutchins.

A. I think Messrs. Miller's and Remington's answers cover this. It is a matter of common sense. No general rule can be laid down.

13. What is the most simple way for Associations to counteract the social temptations of young men?

Answered by David C. Kolp.

A. 1st. The social glass is a temptation. I would say provide ice water to counteract the want of something stronger.

2d. The billiard room is a social temptation. Provide a gymnasium to counteract that room.

3d. The theatre and concert hall is a social temptation. Provide free lecture courses, interspersed with music, to counteract the want of such pernicious recreation.

4th. Have the entire number of young men soundly converted. This will counteract more effectually than anything else, any and all social temptations to which young men are exposed.

14. What was the influence of the Massachusetts Y. M. C. A. canvass last winter upon the pastors and churches of the State.

Answered by L. P. Rowland, Boston.

A. In the first canvass the pastors held back. In very many places we addressed letters, saying we would not go unless the pastors were united in the invitation. Their answer was in the negative. The next year the letters were accepted; and in the canvass which we have made, we are able to say that the pastors united and entered into the work in all of the forty-nine towns and cities. As far as the influence upon the churches is concerned, I would say that we are able to count upwards of 400 conversions to Christ.

15. We have in our city an editor who persists in visiting our Association, interrupting our meetings, and using his paper to ridicule the proceedings of our meetings. We have prayed for him and labored with him without success. Are we justified in putting him out?

Answered by H. Thane Miller.

A. I never heard of such a bad editor. It depends very much upon the man. He may be a little out of his head.

16. Should Associations in cities devote their main energy to the sustaining of suburban Sunday-schools and prayer meetings?

Answered by J. S. Ostrander.

A. They should, providing they cannot get the churches to do it. I think the Missionary Society of a city has as much right as any other organization to do the work.

Second answer, by J. A. Bolgiano.

A. We believe we can accomplish our main work by our main organization. Recruits will not work in other departments.

Third answer, by L. P. Rowland.

A. Our work is chiefly for young men. Better stick to it, and have it well done. Then in time the other can be taken care of.

17. Q. How to bring out the drones in the Association?

By H. Thane Miller.

A. Shake them up with good workers; that works with us first rate.

The time set apart for this exercise having expired, the Convention arose and sang

“Speak a Word for Jesus.”

The hearing of Reports from smaller Associations then being in order, the following reported:

S. B. Almy, of Auburn, N. Y., made a few remarks.

A. E. Ferry, Belchertown, Mass., said:

Our Association, though very small, less than 100 members, has exerted a decided influence upon the community.

Isaac C. Seely, Minneapolis, Minn.:

I represent a new Association in a new city on the frontier. We have at present little narrow back rooms over a store. We want a building. We have another need; hundreds of young men come to the place every year for their

health, and we have found it necessary to go into Christian homes and ask them to take these young men and board them. Young men who have left Christian families in the East, go into boarding at saloons and are there kept away from Christian influences. We visited during the past year all the churches of the city and secured their aid; we visited the saloons and there found sons of Christian parents boarding. In working with and among them we met with considerable success. We held a Noonday Prayer Meeting of 45 minutes every day through the year. Also held Open-Air Meetings through four months of the year, and every Sabbath afternoon at 4 o'clock a Bible Class, inviting all the strangers to fill up the class. We have a prayer meeting which has resulted the past year in the conversion of many souls to Christ. We endeavored to procure homes and employment for those who need them. We believe in personal intercourse with our brothers. We therefore ask these young men to our homes to dine, or take tea with us; they become interested in our families, and we in theirs, and we thus ascertain whether they are worthy of our Association or not.

G. W. Cobb, Cleveland, O. :

There are four Associations in the vicinity of Cleveland : at Norwalk, Bellevue, Berea and Brooklyn. The Association at Norwalk sent out during the past eight months over 150 delegations to the neighboring towns, which has resulted in about 1,000 hopeful conversions. I once met on board a train 200 Association members, on their way to hold Sunday meetings in a neighboring place. He then spoke briefly of the old Associations.

J. N. Cook, Cornell University :

Our University has been termed one of infidelity ; a university without religion. But we have a body of earnest Christian young men there. We have had an Association about four years, and are doing a good work. We have committees on boarding houses, visiting, &c. It is our object to meet young men coming from home and bring them into good society and under good influences, and thus keep them from the evil influences that surround them there. We have quite a number of active working men ; have a fine room, where we hold our Sunday and evening meetings. From a dozen to 35 attend every meeting, for earnest Christian work, and we hope to show good results ; to show that that university is not an infidel institution, without religion.

C. W. Hooper, of Selma, Alabama :

Our Association was organized about three years ago. For a long time it was hard to secure enough members to sustain a prayer meeting. But two or three devoted men engaged in prayer, and the pastors of the different churches sent in their names as honorary members. Christian people of the community united with it, and became active in the work. We have a great many subscribing members who pay \$5 a year, but who take no part in our work. Our town is peculiarly blessed with churches, and at first we found little work to do. At length we began work among the numerous criminals in our county jail. In time the spirit of God blessed our work, and many who at first were cold were brought to know Jesus Christ their Saviour.

A committee of two or three was appointed to go to the colored brethren, and ask them to unite with us in our work. The pastors of the colored churches, most of whom were colored men, are we believe Christian men, though uneducated. They gave us leave to hold meetings in their churches, open bible

classes, &c., and said they were glad to see us. They are also always present at our meetings. They tell us they are learning much, and praying for us. A few days before I left a Young Men's Christian Association was organized in our town.

Chas. W. Merrill, Chelsea, Mass. :

Our Association numbers 135 members. About 15 per cent. are workers. We have a debt of about \$700. We support a school and preaching service, with an attendance of about 125. We employ a young clergyman as a missionary, have two Association prayer meetings. Held prayer meetings also in the rubber factories, resulting in 12 conversions. We then built a chapel. Afterwards 54 were converted, nearly all of whom became members of evangelical churches in our city, and a majority members of the Association.

R. Gray, Port Hope, Canada :

God has signally blessed our work this year. We hold two Association prayer meetings every week. At one of them, held Sabbath mornings; we have an average attendance of about 100 young men. Have had as many as eight to ten young men stand up in that room and ask for the prayers of God's people in their behalf. Some of these young men are earnest workers. Hold a Bible class every Lord's Day at three o'clock, which has accomplished a great deal of good among our young men. Have also carried on a temperance work in our Association. About nine months ago had a dozen drinking saloons in town; to-day there is only one. This change is due chiefly to the Y. M. C. A. Before a year is over, the remaining saloon will be closed. We sustain in town a Bethel service. This is the only thing that has not been prospered. We hold cottage prayer meetings, and in these God has blessed us. Our Association some time ago was in a dying condition, and the ministers of the town gave us little aid; but the moment we began to work for the salvation of young men, they rallied around us, and to-day they emulate one another in their efforts to assist us.

John Hill, Boonton, N. J. :

We have some earnest men among us, working for the spiritual good of the young men in our place. I fully believe in these small Associations, and that in every town in the State of New Jersey we can have an Association. However small they may be, they can exert an influence for good.

"Work, for the night is coming,"

was sung, when reports were continued.

J. L. Race, Tunkhannock, Pa.

Our Association contains 36 active members. We began a year ago.

Chas. L. Wheeler, Peekskill, N. Y. :

We have a population of 7,000, and a membership of fifty. We have been discouraged because only a few were active. We keep up six Sunday-schools.

H. W. French, Lynn, Mass. :

Many Associations don't succeed because they don't start right. Half-a-dozen of us pledged to sustain the Y. M. C. A. for five years, and leased rooms at \$500 a year. Four years have gone by, and we have confidence the Association will live a great many times five years. We have bought \$25,000 worth of real estate, and paid upon it \$10,000.

E. T. Turner, of Natick, Mass., reported a year of unusual success.

Last year we changed the location of our rooms for the better, and have good meetings. We pledged ourselves several years ago not to contract a debt unless we had money to pay. The plan has worked well. We have been generously supported.

R. D. Temple, Reading, Mass. :

Union Meetings have been held from time to time. K. A. Burnell held a Convention among us. After he left, we continued meetings. Forty-five in one evening rose for prayer. Fifty-seven have joined the churches as result of the work thus begun.

W. S. Stickney, Rochester University, N. Y. :

This is the first time our Association has been represented in the Convention. It is composed of students, having forty members. Reading room and library are provided by the University. We sustain one evening meeting, and secure one sermon to young men each year, just before commencement.

The Convention rose and sang

“In the harvest field,”

and reports were continued by

John Moss, of Bowery Branch, N. Y. :

We organized fourteen months ago. We have had great success. Volunteers have carried on work. Crowds have come to our rooms. Many have been converted in the daily meetings. A Bible class is held every Sunday.

E. P. Moody, of Leominster, Mass. :

We have had opposition. Churches were not unanimous till we organized. Open-air and district meetings are successful.

F. R. Stout, of New Brunswick, N. J. :

The Association is five years old. We have 145 members, only ten doing work. We have a building that cost \$10,000. How can we make our members active is the vital question with us. We have enjoyed precious seasons of revival. Our meetings have at times outgrown our rooms, and have been carried into our churches.

W. P. Sanford, Eastern Branch, N. Y. :

We had fifteen lectures last winter. We hold social meetings and open-air services. The latter are conducted by laymen.

T. M. Osborne, Milford, Mass. :

Our Association has 100 members, 15 at work; meetings weekly; reading-room and library, with 1,000 volumes. The visit of K. A. Burnell in the spring was fruitful in good among us.

After singing

“He leadeth me,”

C. M. Bailey, Winthrop, Me., said :

We have 73 members, 10 at work, 50 hopeful conversions during year in neighborhood meetings, of which we hold three weekly.

P. S. Merrill, Easton, Pa. :

80 active working members. District meetings are held with good effect in the suburbs.

J. F. Strawinski, York, Pa. :

235 members. We have paid off a debt of \$1,000. We sustain meetings in rooms in the week and on Sabbath. Owing to success in our jail work, a room has been set apart there for our work, known as the Bethel. Temperance work has been pushed the past year. Most drinking saloons have been closed on Sabbath.

W. J. Cooke, of Cleveland, O., offered prayer for the Associations, reporting.

W. W. Fish, Charlestown, Mass. :

150 members; 20 at work; organized four years. No rooms just now. Open-air and cottage meetings. Lectures monthly to young men.

M. H. Whitney, Fitchburg, Mass. :

150 members, 9 at work; 18 are needed for officers; 2 meetings weekly; 2 mission schools; course of lectures. We are in debt, and hope to get out of it. Mr. Earle spent some time with us, and 50 conversions resulted.

"More love to Thee, O Christ,"

was sung.

E. B. Smith, Westfield, Mass. :

We are in debt, and are giving up everything but our religious meetings, being resolved to pay.

The chairman of the Business Committee reported as follows :

AFTERNOON SESSION—SATURDAY.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.—Devotional meeting at 2½ in this church, conducted by Rev. J. C. Beecher, Poughkeepsie.

Reception of M. H. Hodder, London, England, delegate from the Associations of Great Britain and Ireland.

Discussion on topic No. 2: The value of Associations, Bible classes, and the best mode of conducting them; opened by Dr. Thompson, of New York, followed by remarks from delegates, till 4 P. M.

Hearing of new branches of Association work.

Hearing of items of special interest from large Associations.

Reports from Committees.

Adjournment.

EVENING MEETING—SATURDAY.

Service of Song in the Opera House at ¼ to 8 o'clock, led by Wm. Johnson.

Prayer by Rev. C. S. Brooks, South Deerfield, Mass.

Bible Reading by T. A. Nelson, Toledo. Subject: The seven "I Wills" of Scripture, followed by addresses from the following brethren: Wm. Roche, Jr., Halifax, N. S.; Rev. Jas. P. Lane, Bristol, R. I.; Wm. Johnson, Philadelphia; Rev. H. A. Spencer.

Benediction.

Upon motion of W. S. Hubert, it was adopted.

Geo. A. Hall, from the Devotional Committee, made some an-

nouncement of meetings.

R. R. McBurney moved that the Committee on Credentials be instructed to have the printed lists of the names of delegates at the Convention in the pews, for correction, by the afternoon session. Carried.

W. Johnson sang as a solo,

"Where shall I work to-day?"

and the Convention arose and sang,

"Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing,"

after which the Benediction was pronounced by J. L. Race, and the meeting adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION—SATURDAY.

The Convention was called to order by the President. After singing

"We've 'listed in a holy war,"

the minutes of the morning session were read, corrected and approved.

D. J. Pike moved that a letter to the State Executive Committee of Massachusetts received by S. E. Bridgeman from K. A. Burnell be read; carried. The letter was then read.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Executive Committee's Report made the following additional report:

Your Committee on "Executive Committee's Report," to whom was referred the Report of the Treasurer, beg leave to say that they have examined the same, with the accompanying vouchers, and finding the account correct, recommend that it be printed in the proceedings of the Convention. Your Committee recommend the election of the following Brethern as Corresponding Members of the Executive Committee for the respective States, Districts, and Provinces:

JAMES FARQUHAR, Halifax, N. S.
GEO. A. YOUNG, Hamilton, Ontario.
JOSHUA CLAWSON, St. John, N. B.
ALFRED SANDHAM, Montreal, Quebec.
J. C. HARTSHORN, Providence, R. I.
A. J. HOWE, Montpelier, Vt.
W. J. COOKE, Cleveland, Ohio.
ERSKINE UHL, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
H. L. MCKEE, Selma, Ala.
C. M. WILCOX, New London, Conn.
W. H. HOBBS, Portland, Maine.
D. C. BELL, Minneapolis, Minn.
S. A. TAGGART, Pittsburgh, Pa.
M. B. CRITCHETT, Concord, N. H.
C. B. MORRIS, Montclair, N. J.

H. A. STAPLES, Boston, Mass.
GEO. A. HALL, Washington, D. C.
C. J. STEALEY, Clarksburg, W. Va.
JULIUS D. DREHER, Roanoke College,
Salem, Va.
R. H. T. HUDSON, Raleigh, N. C.
C. E. CHICHESTER, Columbia, S. C.
J. H. CRANSTON, Augusta, Ga.
C. L. ROBINSON, Jacksonville, Fla.
J. L. WHEAT, Louisville, Ky.
JOHN E. BURSON, Bristol, Tenn.
J. C. DENISE, Omaha, Neb.
W. F. DOWNS, Atchison, Kan.
J. A. HOUSTON, Baltimore, Md.
F. D. TAYLOR, Detroit, Mich.

Upon motion of A. J. Truesdell, of Cleveland, this report was adopted. F. D. Taylor moved that "the committee be authorized to fill vacancies among the corresponding members." Carried. Mr. Taylor then announced that Mr. H. W. Morris, of Poughkeepsie, had sent to the Convention several specimens of ancient coins and bank bills, and expressed the hope that they would bring a good price. R. K. Remington and H. Thane Miller acted as auctioneers. The proceeds amounted to \$35. H. H. Otto moved that a vote of thanks be returned to Mr. H. W. Morris for the contribution. Carried. After singing

"How firm a foundation,"

the President announced that the hour had arrived when we would formally receive Mr. M. H. Hodder, of London, England.

Mr. Hodder then addressed the Convention, as follows:

ADDRESS OF M. H. HODDER.

MY DEAR FRIENDS—I am very glad to have the opportunity of saying just a word or two about our Associations in Great Britain and Ireland. And allow me, first of all, in their name, to convey to you from them their Christian love. It was the parting injunction that I had, not only from the whole of the General Committee assembled, but in particular from the founder of these Associations the world over, dear George Williams. In addition to the general vote of the Board of Directors, he desired his Christian love to the brethren here; and I offer to you, my friends, from the brethren in England, Ireland and Scotland, in connection with our Young Men's Christian Associations, the love of Christian brotherhood. They are very glad to think that I have had the privilege of coming here before, and of being here now on the present occasion, because they too sometimes receive friends from across the water, and I believe nothing has done so much in cementing these two great countries as the influence exerted in both countries by the Y. M. C. A. The more we visit one another, the more we shall love one another.

Our dear friend, your president, intimated just now that one of the strongholds in Association work in Great Britain is the study of God's Holy Word. I am glad to say that this grows stronger and stronger every day, and I hope that it will obtain in America the same foothold. Since I was here, four years ago, I have found rapid progress in the love and study of God's word. I am glad to find in New York the great interest manifested in the bible lessons of Dr. Thompson. He is doing a great work there. The particular way in which we deal in bible study is different from the way my dear friend conducts the services in New York. Our classes are more conversational. Our young men are trained to study the word of God, and come prepared to give their opinions upon it. I believe the more we do this the greater will be the interest of our meetings. Not only must we depend upon our coming together to study God's word, but we must cultivate a love and affection for the personal study of God's word. My dear brethren, I could not do without that study, and, as a business man, I dare not go to my business unless I made the word a daily study. I am

satisfied that neither you nor I can attempt to do anything in God's name without the Holy Spirit working upon that word.

In London, we prize and use our Bible classes. About 200 assemble in the principal rooms, and have a real good time. Young men are stationed throughout the city with little hand-bills, calling attention of young men to this class. There are young men, active members of the Association, to meet them. We have no other members in the Association, for we do not make the division you do into active and associate members. We have indeed an educational institution in connection with our Association. It draws those who answer to your associate members. But those who belong to our spiritual confederations are those whom we look to to help us in this great war. There are several young men who meet in this Bible class to lay hold of strangers, not to let them leave our dwelling without a personal conversation. After our Bible class we give them a cup of tea. We deal largely in tea in London, which we find does great good. I hope to see the custom grow up all over the States. We don't regard our Associations as strong and healthy unless they have their Bible classes. In addition, we hold social and prayer meetings, and of late we have been more blessed in our social meetings than in any other agency employed. Cards of invitation are sent to a large number of young men in our warehouses, dry goods establishments and banking offices. They are sent to the address of the individual young men, which is secured from the young men engaged in business with them. They read as follows: "The pleasure of Mr. —'s company is respectfully solicited to —. Refreshments, &c. Addresses delivered by Messrs. — —." We get about 500 young men, and young men only, on such occasions. We are glad to do all we can for young ladies, but we have not the room to invite our sisters also. We occasionally do that; but we think our special mission is to young men, and adhere to that very closely. Indeed, the whole hall is filled with them. Many conversions result from these efforts.

The past year has been one of the most successful ever experienced in the history of our Association, not only in London, but elsewhere. In going about I find that there is no indication of blessing so sure as to learn that the spiritual element is brought to the front, and that all secular operations are in the background. We think they are auxiliary to the devotional element, and not the devotional work auxiliary to the secular. And I have listened with a great deal of interest to the discussions that have taken place here for the last few days. I believe that those who recommend the making of those Associations Christian club-houses are actuated by the highest motives. But I believe we must be more than ever anxious about that matter. After twenty-seven years' work and visits in America, Canada and England, I have noticed that where an Association sank and died, it has been the result of the lecture or entertainment business. That has been the rock on which the Association has split. Therefore I feel it necessary every day that we should be the most anxious about spiritual work. Don't allow outside considerations to come in too prominently. I believe we are very apt to go wrong in this method of "catching young men." Depend upon it, we can't compete with the devil.

Make your halls beautiful homes; get attractive buildings; let us have educational lectures, gymnasiums and the like; but let us be very careful about the kind of entertainment, for fear that something stronger may spring in which we don't want at all. It is like recommending the substitution of light wines for strong drink. People who taste port and sherry never do with claret. What appeals to the old flesh and devil must be sufficient to satisfy the appetite

and stronger things are demanded. Let us, in reaching them, rely more upon love for the Redeemer, and love for their souls. These are the great attractions for man. The entertainments will draw, but to a very great extent they will not be satisfied with the very limit to which we feel we can go. I defer to the judgment of my dear brethren very largely. Yet, it is my conscientious conviction, that where an Association prospers, it is in spite of all these things.

Not only in London is our work going on with great success, but in Ireland, too. They have indeed a live Association in the City of Dublin. I go there twice a year, and it does my heart good to meet there warm-hearted Irishmen to listen to the gentlemen conducting the bible-class. They only aim at spiritual work, and do nothing else whatever. In Liverpool there has been a great work going on; it has come from a very small beginning. I looked at the new rooms just before leaving home. They are located in the best building devoted to our work on the other side, and will be opened before long.

My dear brethren, I can only tell you what I told you two years ago—I love the Association work more than ever. I have told my friends over the water what God is doing for you here. We always call a meeting whenever an American comes into Paternoster Row. It makes my heart jump when I hear "An American gentleman has come to see you." I believe in business men sparing the time to talk with their brethren. Of course, I know the old mottoes about "business being business," "time is money, &c." I find the busiest people in the world have the most time to take a brother by the hand and wish him God speed.

I thank you for the opportunity of speaking in this Convention, and I do thank God again that it has been my privilege to meet you. (Applause.)

Professor William Johnson sung a Hymn of Welcome to M. H. Hodder.

After which the Convention sang,

"Christian, welcome."

Mr. Hodder, as one of the Vice-Presidents, then took the chair.

William H. Thompson, M.D., leader of the Association Bible Class in New York, read a paper on the second topic: "The value of Association Bible Classes and the best method of conducting them."

Dr. Thompson said: My paper will relate to the study of the Scriptures, and will be followed by a discussion concerning the Bible classes.

An eminent French writer, commenting on the cause of the disasters of the late war with Germany, details with much bitterness his personal experience of the want of acquaintance on the part of French officers with the geography of their own country. Leading generals, he states, had to ask of peasants the way to points of great strategical importance, while the enemy on the other hand had carefully studied elaborate maps of the French territory, and therefore knew everything worth knowing to him, about his opponent's ground. The church militant in America at present is waging its war on very much the same fashion as the French strategists complained of. I will not stop here to discuss the question whether the Scriptures held by us to be inspired by God himself do, or do not, constitute (to keep up the military figure) the true base

of our operations, for this is not a question for Christians to discuss among themselves. If the Sword of the Spirit is not to be our Sword against the world, what else are we to rely on? But assuming that the Bible is the one word of salvation, I wish to direct attention to the following points.

1. That the majority of adult American Christians ought to expect to be at a disadvantage in argument with their opponents, the skeptics of the day, simply because they treat the knowledge of the Bible as a matter which concerns only children, and therefore have made no provision for its systematic study except by the institution of the Sunday-school.

We say—systematic study by ADULTS; for our ground is that the Bible, on any view that can be taken of it, believing or unbelieving, is a great subject for study by fully grown and not by immature minds, and that the want of its study by Christian men and women constitutes one of the most serious deficiencies of our times. It is no answer to this allegation to cite the stated reading of the Bible at family prayers in thousands of Christian households, or its daily prayerful perusal in personal worship. We say that this is no answer, because this mode of reading the Scriptures will prove on examination to be in the great majority of instances a liturgical performance, and so far we have not a word to say against its use for that purpose. The Bible is indeed most precious for this very end, namely, to minister to worship in its best sense, to prayer and to the direct communion of a human soul with its Heavenly Father. But we maintain that the Bible was not given wholly or even mainly for this one purpose, but for other quite distinct purposes as well. It was given for instruction as well as for edification, and these two things are quite distinct and independent. Either may exist without the other. A man may be well instructed in Christian knowledge, and nevertheless be a poor Christian, and on the other hand he may be devout and yet have but little knowledge—but if the Christian is without knowledge he is inevitably weak, and the Master never intended to have his army made up mainly of such soldiers. To be strong, every army must be disciplined and instructed quite as much as well disposed, and that instruction in the Bible is not the same thing with edification by the Bible I would try to illustrate here by a few observations.

I have known of more than one instance of good Christians who adopt the plan of reading a certain amount each day in private worship, so that the whole Bible is gone through from beginning to end once a year. But in each case, I must say that the practical result of thus “doing” the Bible, to use a common phrase, reminds me of the remark about Admiral Anson who circumnavigated the globe in the last century, namely, that he had been all round the world, but never in it. This plan of thus reading the Bible at the time of prayer to God, overlooks the important fact that by far the greater part of the Bible is not fit, and never was intended, for edification in the proper sense of that term, either in private or in family worship, or even in the public assemblies of the Church. The account of the upholstery of the Tabernacle, for instance, takes up a great deal more space than the sermon on the Mount, and what is curious, it is gone over twice, like the versions of the Lord’s Prayer. The genealogies in Chronicles make queer reading, as I know personally, for children at morning prayers, when each takes up his verse in turn. There are pages upon pages in the Bible which hold the same relation to the passages which minister to spiritual strength and consolation that the Desert of Sahara does to the climate of Europe. We wonder what the Desert of Sahara was made for. We also wonder why Ezekiel writes a longer de-

scription than the best of Paul's Epistles of a visionary temple, with a lengthy enumeration of the measurements of its chambers and doors and windows even. But Paris, which is in the same latitude with Quebec, Naples, which is on a line with New York, and Edinburgh, which is opposite to Labrador, would not be at all what they are, but for the existence of deserts where only a few nomads can live, or of oceans, which in a human sense are nothing but vast wastes. Precisely so has it been arranged by the Highest Wisdom that the greater part of the Bible is as unfit for the closet as the tremendous stony upland of Central Asia is unfit for wheat-fields or vegetable-gardens. In the one case the Creator did not ask our advice when he fashioned the continents so that the most of the land of our globe should be too cold to live in, besides covering more than two-thirds of the planet's surface with salt water; and exactly parallel to this fact in the physical world, he has given us a Bible, two-thirds of which is as poorly adapted for prayer-meeting, as the broad acres of British America and Alaska are for supplying mankind with cotton. Nevertheless he would be a bold man who would essay to arrange the physical world better than it is now arranged, with its immense preponderance of waste spaces.

A profound study of human history makes it very doubtful if mankind would have been any better, or been profited by transferring the great barren plateau of Asia to the tropical regions now occupied by the waters of the Central Pacific, so that the sun might shine on an unbroken expanse of four thousand miles of palm trees and bananas. That great cold plateau was the birthplace of all the strong races, from the old conquerors of India to the Celtic and Teutonic nations of our day; and even the Hebrews were taken into the wilderness in order that a people of slaves might be transformed into the soldiers of Joshua. And so would we venture to say that a true appreciation of the spiritual wants of our nature, will lead the thoughtful student to be thankful that the Bible is not written as he would have written it, any more than this earth has been made as he would in his small wisdom have fashioned it. Instead of that, in its present shape the Bible offers a field for infinite study, in the highest sense of the term, and a study which to the end of time is sufficient to tax the strongest and most mature minds. With all its strange, wide districts, so to speak, of non-devotional reading, the Bible stands to-day, by the admission of our enemies, the greatest subject of investigation in the world; one proof of which the infidel himself can give, namely, that in every country both in Europe and America, the books that are published about the Bible outnumber the books published about anything else, twice over. Nobody in our day can escape talking about the Bible. He may hate orthodoxy to his heart's content, and vehemently maintain that this Hebrew Book is an incubus on man's or woman's progress; but write about it or talk about it he must, because it is a great something which mankind, himself included, find it impossible to ignore. And the reason for this impossibility of exhausting the Bible so that it can be once and for all disposed of, answered, or finally exploded, is simply because somehow it touches every conceivable point of human history, experience and investigation so singularly, that for example, the geologist, the philologist, the ethnologist, the historian, the literary critic, the philosopher, as well as the man in every department of life, finds in it what seems to concern him, himself, very particularly. It has been stated, for instance, in the best modern work on naval architecture, that all the remains of ancient literature do not contain half the information about the navigation of the Greeks and Romans

which can be gathered from St. Luke's narrative of Paul's voyage and shipwreck. Hence we can confidently ask what possible event in a nation's history on the one hand, or in a single individual's personal experience on the other, or again what study, investigation or subject for human thought, scientific or metaphysical, can be named, without something in the Word of God which will apply to it just as surely as a powerful magnet will find and affect a grain of iron in the midst of a heap of earthy dust.

But if all this be true it is plain that the Bible is no child's book, but a book demanding the attention of those with whom the heavy hours of noon-time give especial significance to the solemn petition of the Psalmist, "so teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom." It indeed contains all that little children can ever need or that can be needed by the wayfarer, though a fool. But in its inexhaustible variety of heights and depths, the Word of God stands as the great subject of every time and age for study; that is, in other words, the Book for grown men and women, who are the only persons that are able to study in the proper sense of the term; and it is precisely here that we would place the special failure of the church in our day. Claiming to possess a revelation from Infinite Wisdom, the church at present commits the unfolding of that revelation to two agencies. First, the Sabbath-School, which graduates its Biblical scholars at the average limit of fourteen years, and secondly, the pulpit, which is expected to teach the Bible by selecting a text and delivering an oration about it. We wish, therefore, now to pass to our second point for discussion.

Namely, first, that from the nature of the case, the Sabbath School cannot be the school for Christians in the Bible after twenty years of age.

Secondly, nor the pulpit, either, because it is not its function to teach, but to exhort. In other words, not to impart instruction, but to enforce it.

We do not wish to be understood as implying or suggesting one word of disparagement of the Sabbath School, when we say that it is wholly unequal to the training of the Church against the enemy in our times. The Sunday School is the only example of its kind in history, that is, of a religion providing an important exercise, especially for children. The Olympian religion of antiquity had no place for children, nor do any of the forms of heathenism in our day provide for the perfect praise and prayer of the largest, and in a deep sense, the best part of our sin-stricken race. The Mohammedan faith, which, next to Christianity, is the most living faith on the globe, and that too, because it is next to Christianity, nevertheless has never thought of making a special provision for the worship of children. It is the Christian Church only, which ever conceived of such a thing. But the Sabbath School is in reality little else than an exercise of child worship. Prayer and song are inevitable and very proper parts of the children's meeting, and we would decidedly oppose all attempts to do away with those parts of the Sunday hour given to their assembly. But after you have properly performed those two exercises in the Sabbath School, how much time is left on the average for the study of the Bible? The answer is, an average of twenty-five minutes in tens of thousands of Sunday Schools, and very rarely three-quarters of an hour. Now would you be willing to teach geography to your children in that weekly fashion? How much of any branch of human knowledge that can be named, would we on the most common-sense principles expect to be imparted by an organization of that sort? The fact is that practically the Bible is as little known in its entirety, by this method of instruction, as astronomy or geology could be taught by a

festival gathering, say on Thursday afternoon, at half-past two o'clock, the lesson to terminate with a bell ringing at half-past three, besides a part of the hour, at the beginning, being taken up with practising two songs; another part of the hour is frequently allotted to some gentleman who has kindly consented to come in and tell the youthful scholars in geology, stories of his visit to the rocks in the Yosemite Valley. Add to this that every fourth Thursday the study of geology is dropped altogether, and the hour is then devoted to hearing reports of the spread of geological science in Europe, Asia, and Australia. Now we maintain that this illustration is no caricature of the practical results of the education which the Sabbath School of our time and country imparts in Biblical knowledge. Nor should it be expected to do any more. The Sabbath School affords the kind of instruction, and that too, in a right fashion, which children need; but it is a serious mistake to suppose that Biblical knowledge, such as men and women require in our time, is to be obtained from this nursery. To believe this is tantamount to saying that the Bible is a primer, and that the commonest branches of secular science require a more developed age for their acquisition than does the Word of God.

Unfortunately, this opinion has become too prevalent; many half-educated young persons of both sexes imagine that the Bible is too infantile for them to study it, and that scientific minds are arrayed against and feel themselves above it, whereas, there is not a circle of the most prominent skeptics, before whom a Biblical scholar could fail to obtain a respectful hearing, just because he was a Biblical scholar. Skeptics in our day are ashamed of the small sneers of the infidels of a hundred years ago, and neither Voltaire's gibes nor Gibbon's inuendoes would find acknowledgment among them. It is not because the Bible itself is at fault, but because Christians have provided themselves so scantily with its knowledge that skepticism grows either insolent or patronizing.

Our second point under this head is, that it is not the function of the pulpit to teach the Bible.

We wish to emphasize the word "teach," because otherwise our design may be totally misapprehended. We need not say that what we expect to hear from the pulpit is the sermon, and its very name explains what a sermon is, namely, an oration. The tendency, or at least the habit of our times is to demand of each minister that above all things he should be an orator. Now, an orator and a teacher are by no means necessarily identical. Some of the best teachers in the world in every branch of knowledge, are very inferior orators on the one hand, and there are church orators on the other who for years fill great houses with crowds, but who nevertheless impart a very slender amount of Biblical knowledge. To take a text and preach from it, of course, is often in practice a very effective way of affording Biblical instruction, but that is not the chief function of the preacher of the Gospel in our times. Instead of that he is to awaken the conscience rather than improve the mind, to stir the feelings, in short, to enforce the truth by all those methods which the Creator has provided whereby men are moved and influenced by the voice, language, gestures, tones and visible presence of a living, earnest fellow man. But it is a serious question whether our age is not letting speech-making run wild. If a minister cannot produce good sermons, or at least make up other deficiencies with good delivery, church trustees begin to be anxious about the pew-rents. Hence it results that there is an infinite deal of talking about the Bible with an exceedingly slender amount of knowledge of the Bible. We go to hear a speech and

come away criticising it in too many instances, when we go up to the house of the Lord. But we do not mean to be understood as underrating the importance of preaching, for no Christian can do this with the plain choice of this means by his Master for the promulgation of the Gospel, and the conversion of the world. All we wish to say is that preaching is not teaching, and that besides the oration for the ears of Christian men and women, the church ought to provide a class of teachers who are to give, not sermons about the Word of God, but lessons in it.

Instead of compelling every minister, therefore, to be an orator and to compose nothing but sermons, whatever his other gifts, we would earnestly advocate the setting apart of one of the Sabbath exercises in every church in our land to a Bible class for the whole congregation. We would have the Bible class grow into as prominent an agency of the church as the Sabbath-school, with a great literature of its own, now indeed most sadly needed. By this means it is true that we would miss the second sermon, but that loss would certainly be more than made up by the gain of Biblical knowledge on the part of Christian adults, which, we repeat, is the most crying want of our times. Again, it is much more likely that the minister can write one good sermon than two. Very often the second Sunday sermon resembles a meal warmed over, in comparison with its predecessor in the morning, and if it does not, still the hearers are apt to be dull and uninterested after the first speech has been listened to. By this means also the sphere of usefulness of the ministry will be greatly enlarged, and much talent of a high order utilized, which is now wasted. For no matter what Biblical knowledge a minister may have to impart, by the present system we oblige him to put it into the form of a hortatory address, whereas many men who are by nature well qualified to be teachers, are yet indifferent preachers.

On motion of Mr. Cephas Brainerd, the Convention agreed to discuss this topic until five o'clock.

President Porter in the chair.

M. H. Hodder, London :

I would first say this, that many young men ask how are we to conduct these Bible classes? The usual way with us is to select some layman, a middle-aged man with a young man's heart, who has the tact to bring out people. We have found it is better to get such a man, than to secure various clergymen to take the class in turn.

Thomas S. Cole, Toronto :

We have a Bible class conducted by one of our members. Our aim is to gather in young men out of the street. We expect the members of the Association to engage in Sabbath School teaching, and, as a rule, the class is composed of strangers. We have seen blessed results in the conversion of many souls.

Charles Douglass, of Toledo, called upon Dr. Thompson to describe the New York Bible class. Dr. Thompson :

I may, in a few words, give the history of the New York Bible class. It has been in my charge for four years. I am a professor in a medical college which

has students from every State in the Union, from many States of South America, and from yet more distant lands—a most motley collection of nationalities. There are upwards of a thousand medical students in New York who have been very much neglected by the Church. Being one of their teachers, I gave notice, some years ago, at the end of a lecture on Saturday, that I should be glad to meet any of the students, on the following Sunday, in the Amphitheatre of the College, to begin a Bible class. It was quite an experiment, and I wondered whether any would come. I was gratified to find nearly the entire college there—Roman Catholics, Jews, Infidels, and Christians. I am sorry to say that I did not know the Christians until some time afterwards. I carried on that Bible class for three years until it was heard of by Mr. McBurney (who hears a great many things), and he invited me to come to the Y. M. C. A. rooms, so as to have the students of all the medical colleges. I did so. I have been rather sorry for it sometimes, because I could not take all my flock with me. The Catholics especially would not go, although I believe I have 15 or 20 Roman Catholic pupils in the Association. In place of medical students there came in so many visitors that they soon overflowed the little lecture-room up stairs, and we went down to the main hall. As to the mode of conducting Bible classes I discourage debate and discussion. Nothing kills a Bible class more quickly than to have four or five born talkers ventilating their opinions and starting discussion. We do not come there for that purpose, but for instruction; least of all should we have a discussion started in an Association between Methodist, Presbyterian, Baptist, or Episcopalian. Another, and essential point, relates to the subject of the lessons. A great mistake is often made in selecting passages of the Bible that need not be taught at all. I remember a minister of the gospel once asked me whether it would not be better to lop off the second Sunday sermon and try to start a Bible class. He took the first ten verses of a chapter in John's Gospel, which every child in the congregation would understand; of course, no one was interested. Instead of that, had he taken up some subject in the Bible, following it in a systematic course of instruction the whole winter, he would have both interested and instructed his people. For three years I have been teaching about the prophecies in the Old Testament concerning Christ. This was the weapon of Paul and the Apostles. Opening the Scriptures he proved that Jesus was the Christ. "What Scriptures?" The Scriptures which the Jews have contain irresistible arguments for our religion. We can find, beginning at Genesis, all the way down to Malachi, the succession of events in Christ's history distinctly prophesied. His birth, His city and His ministry, His teaching, sufferings and death, and the exact time of that death; the spread of his kingdom westward—all are clearly foretold, not once, but twice, and many times, and as many different ways. This line of argument is simply irresistible. For three years we have not gone further than Daniel. Another subject would be the founding of the Christian Church, an evidence of the truth of Christianity. This study would begin with Acts. Study the history in these, and continue through the New Testament.

Another important point is to find out, among your class, who are the ones to put the questions to. In the beginning, it is very necessary to have a great deal of the conversational element predominant. I would study to find the questions to put—frame those questions before you go to the Bible class.

The following questions were asked of Professor Thompson :

Q. How much time do you give to the lesson ?

A. One hour.

Q. Are you familiar with Mr. Moody's manner of conducting a Bible reading ?

A. No, I am not. I would wish to say one thing. I would advise every teacher and member of a class to use the Paragraph Bible. Very often the reading of a Bible in paragraphs has given me for the first time the idea of the real intention of the writer.

Q. Should Associations have no Bible class, that have not an excellent teacher ?

A. They will make such a teacher if they will only start. There is no doubt that we must raise and cultivate a class of men as teachers if we are going to have good Bible classes. But we must have Bible classes first, and these classes will make the teachers.

The discussion was continued by Thos. J. Wilkie :

We secured a Bible class by going on the streets and inviting young men. We sought out a teacher. We discovered in a certain church a suitable man, who had only six scholars. We told him to bring those with him ; and he came to us. He soon had 150 in the class. That man devotes an hour every day to the study of the lesson. He is a very busy man, and when he sends his children to school in the morning he studies *his* lesson. In the class he urges the members to prepare themselves, and asks questions only of the members. In this way it appears to be a conversational Bible class, although the outsiders are not aware it is so arranged.

Q. (Of Dr. Thompson.) What do you think of the scholar confining himself to Scriptural answers, rather than choosing his own language ?

A. I think he should talk as he pleases.

Robert Weidensall :

There is a man in Aurora, Illinois, who has in his use of the Bible reached many young men. He has been studying the Bible for one year with great energy. In his store, when he is not engaged in mercantile duties, he is studying God's Word. In the morning after breakfast, until he goes to his business, his Bible is open, and he studies it. You would think this harassing, but it is not so. When he hears of any man who seems to have a special knowledge of the Bible, he writes to him. He spends much money in this absorbing study.

J. P. Lane, Bristol, R. I. :

I regard this paper of Dr. Thompson's as one of the most important documents that has come before us through the session of this Convention. I rise simply to express the wish that it should be published in some permanent form, so that we may have it for future use ; say a pamphlet for distribution.

G. W. Alexander, of Indianapolis, seconded the idea, and pledged \$25 for this purpose.

G. H. Griffin, of Stamford, Conn. :

Spoke of Dr. Thompson's Bible Class in New York, as a unique class. It is instructive, not to beginners and Sunday Scholars, but to the best minds of New York City. Educated men and Professors attend. Sometimes he has a

thousand people in the hall. Every Association cannot have such a class. In many of our societies they will be more devotional and conversational. We cannot all secure such leaders as the one whom we have heard this afternoon with so much interest and pleasure.

S. A. Taggart moved that the time of the discussion be extended fifteen minutes. Carried.

H. A. Wheeler spoke in favor of discussions in the Bible Classes.

Dr. Thompson, in answer to a question, said :

I am opposed to discussions in public for this reason: I have never seen anything gained by it. I never yet heard of anybody who was convinced by a discussion in public. If you can take a man by himself and talk to him, you may be able to change his mind, but if you put him in an audience and get him to maintain opinions against you, you may talk for fifty years and be where you were at the beginning.

S. A. Taggart :

I would like to know how these Bible Classes are conducted? I wish to state here that we had a visit from our brother Moody, and he gave us a Bible lesson on "Love." He reviewed some 20 or 25 passages on love, and illustrated them in his own peculiar way. We talk about the simplicity of certain parts of the Scriptures. We want the truth of the Bible in its simplicity. Mr. Moody's simple Bible reading that night stimulated us to a new enthusiasm in studying the Word of God.

R. C. Morse :

In visiting Halifax I found an Association Bible class, which had been in existence since 1853. It had been steadily supported, without any prominent leader, by the patient, devoted enthusiasm of the Christian young men composing the Association. They come together week after week to study the Word of God. There is not very much enthusiasm, not a very large crowd, but they quietly and profitably study the Word, and this has been fruitful in results of the most substantial sort.

H. P. Hopkins, Cincinnati :

I think the morning papers interfere with our study of the Bible. I make a point of reading the Bible every day before the papers. That brother in Illinois has got the Bible on the brain. "Go thou and do likewise."

Geo A. Hall, Washington, D. C. :

I simply wish to say that the effect of Mr. Moody's visit in Washington was that the religious book-store sold out all the pocket Bibles it had on hand. Such a universal study of the Scriptures was never known before there. I think the secret of our success is, that we are studying God's Word. How far should the study of the Bible be topical? I know one of the young men who takes up the subject of Faith, studies it over and over before he is ready to go to his class. This study helps our prayer meetings. The young men are all ready to say a word to real edification.

Robert Smith, of St. Paul, Minn., made some remarks, closing the discussion.

The Convention then sang,

"With humble heart and tongue,"

and, on motion of Geo. A. Hall, G. W. Cobb, Railroad Secretary of the Cleveland Association, was allowed five minutes to tell the Convention of the Railroad work in his city. He said :

Two years ago several of the members of our Association asked the privilege of starting a Sunday afternoon meeting in one of the waiting rooms of the railroad depot. The request was granted, and from that has sprung the wonderful work which, under the blessing of God, is now in progress there. There was a large room about 40 by 46 feet, and application was made for it to the authorities. They painted and furnished it with both chairs and carpets, at a cost of about \$3,000. They warmed and light it, and supply it with literature. It is open all hours of the day, with the special object of inducing 5,000 railroad men to come there, instead of frequenting places of evil resort. We have a Sunday afternoon meeting at 3 o'clock ; and a short time ago it was held on seven consecutive Sabbaths by railroad men—conductors, engineers, train-despatchers and others. When I began, eighteen months ago, to help in this work, I had none of them to help me, but now these employees of every grade work with a will, lead our meetings, and help everywhere. Hardly a week passes but some poor boy is caught between the cars, or in other ways is fearfully injured. We care for these sick and wounded. Said one who had been cared for many days : "I've got a practical idea of religion and the life of Jesus that I never had learned of before." Blessed results have followed from every effort put forth in this railroad work.

The Convention then united in singing the "Gospel Train," after which the motion was made by E. A. Hutchins, that the minutes of the present session be read after the reports of Committees. Carried.

The following Report of the Credential Committee was then, upon motion, received :

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

CEPHAS BRAINERD.	ROBERT R. MCBURNEY.	T. G. SELLEW, JR.
EDGAR A. HUTCHINS.	JAMES STOKES, JR.	BENJAMIN C. WETMORE.

RICHARD C. MORSE, *General Secretary*.

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

ERSKINE UHL, Poughkeepsie, New York.	L. P. ROWLAND, Boston, Massachusetts.
F. D. TAYLOR, Detroit, Michigan.	S. A. TAGGART, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
GEORGE A. YOUNG, Hamilton, Ontario.	D. W. GLASS, Baltimore, Maryland.
GEORGE A. HALL, Washington, D. C.	

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

M. H. HODDER, London, England.	O. H. HAZARD, La Grange.
P. H. BEEMER, Port Henry, New York.	WILLARD M. PHILLIPS, Newburg, N. Y.
W. R. WOODBRIDGE, Port Henry, New York.	CHARLES COOK, Cincinnati, Ohio.
MOSES H. WILDER, Meriden, Conn.	EDWARD W. ABBY, Cincinnati, Ohio.
CHARLES D. TUCKER, Worcester, Mass.	A. C. STOLZ, Brooklyn, N. Y.
R. K. REMINGTON, Fall River, Mass.	FRANCIS FORBES, N. Y.
J. F. ROSCOE, Norwalk, Conn.	F. W. WAGNER, <i>Publisher of Illustrated Christian Weekly</i> .
LYMAN ABBOTT, D. D., Cornwall, N. Y.	T. J. HAMILTON, New York, <i>Stenographer of Convention</i> .
JOHN B. SANDS, Cornwall, N. Y.	

BRIT. PROVINCES. NEW BRUNSWICK.

Miramichi.
ROBERT SINCLAIR.
St. John.
E. T. C. KNOWLES.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Halifax.
WILLIAM ROCHE, JR.,
C. E. PUTNER.

Truro.
J. H. KENT,
WILLIAM CUMMINGS.

ONTARIO.

Guelph.
S. S. BATES.
Hamilton.
SHERIFF E. C. THOMAS,
G. A. YOUNG.

Ingersoll.
D. A. SINCLAIR.

Port Hope.
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ROBERT GRAY.

Toronto.
E. DACK,
ROBERT MORPHY,
THOMAS S. COLE,
THOMAS J. WILKIE.

PRINCE EDWARD'S ISLAND.

Charlottetown.
W. W. ANDERSON.

QUEBEC.

Montreal.
W. J. B. PATTERSON,
J. B. MCCONNELL.

ALABAMA.

Marion.
D. P. GOODHUE.
Selma.
N. D. CROSS,
JAMES W. LAPSLEY,
C. W. HOOPEE.

CONNECTICUT.

Ansonia.
W. D. GALPIN,
CHAS. E. STEELE.

Meriden.
W. E. BENHAM,
R. L. WHITEHEAD.

Milford.
GEORGE H. GRIFFIN.

New Haven.
J. H. STARKWEATHER,
GEORGE P. HOLT.

New London.
J. N. HARRIS,
CHARLES M. WILCOX,
E. MORGAN.

Plantville.
J. W. HONCHEN.

DIST. of COLUMBIA.

Howard University.
T. Mc C. STEWART,
J. E. PAGE.

Washington.
O. O. HOWARD,
JAMES MELDRUM,
J. E. CARPENTER,
R. C. CRAWFORD,
E. YOUNGS,
WILLIAM STICKNEY,
F. H. SMITH.

GEORGIA.

Augusta.
JAMES P. VERDERY.

INDIANA.

Indianapolis.
LE ROY W. BRADEN,
JAMES FISHER,
LEE W. MUMHALL,
G. W. ALEXANDER.

ILLINOIS.

Aurora.
D. J. PIKE.

MAINE.

Lewiston.
S. J. GOULD.

Portland.
D. H. HANNABURG.

Winthrop.
G. M. BAILEY.

MARYLAND.

Baltimore.
JOSEPH A. BOLGIANO,
J. V. L. GRAHAM,
WILLIAM H. HORNOR,
J. D. MICHAEL,
WM. E. HOFFMAN.

Frederick City.
H. K. CARMACK.

Hagerstown.
W. S. HERBERT.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Amherst College.
J. H. B. HEADLEY.

Attleboro.
J. O. TIFFANY,
WILLIAM H. GOULD.

Belchertown.
A. E. FERRY,
WHITE H. HAWKS.

Blackstone.
GEORGE J. BALDWIN.

Boston.
RUSSELL STURGIS, Jr.,
W. H. FAY,
GEO. H. SHAW,
DANIEL L. CHUBBUCK,
HENRY W. KIMBALL,
L. P. ROWLAND.

Boston Highlands.
L. M. CHASE,
W. R. CALLENDER.

Charlestown.
WILLIAM W. FISH.

Chelsea.
CHARLES W. MERRILL,
ALONZO C. TENNEY.

Fall River.
E. A. BUCK,
J. C. HADDOCK,
LE ROY SARGENT.

Fitchburg.
G. W. H. CLARKE,
M. H. WHITNEY.

Gardner.
DANIEL ATKINS,
J. L. ALGER.

Grafton.
EDMUND P. CAPRON.

Haverhill.
DAVID BOYNTON,
J. E. EMERY.

Holden.
JOSEPH H. GLEASON,
GEORGE H. GODDARD.

Leicester.
ALBERT WARREN.

Leominster.
E. P. MOODY.

Lowell.
J. E. WEAVER,
HENRY J. MCCOY,
E. F. WOODS.

Lynn.
R. W. HALL,
A. S. ROWELL,
W. H. HALL,
H. W. FRENCH.

Milford.
T. M. OSBORNE.

Natick.
E. T. TURNER.

New Bedford.
DANIEL BESSEY,
ALLEN F. WOOD.

Northampton.
S. E. BRIDGMAN.

Orange.
T. B. HOLLAND.

Reading.
GEO. A. RICHARDSON,
R. D. TEMPLE.

Rockport.
THOMAS HORTON,
O. L. LEONARD.

Salem.
FRED. DEBOS,
GEORGE A. DAVIS.

Somerville.
H. M. MOORE,
S. N. WATSON.

South Deerfield.
C. S. BROOKS.

South Gardner.
CHARLES P. WOOD,
C. H. GREENWOOD.

Spencer.
DANIEL A. BALL,
A. E. BABCOCK.

Springfield.
JOHN A. CASS.

West Bayleton.
SAMUEL P. HALLOCK.

Westboro.
J. A. TROWBRIDGE.

Westfield.
E. B. SMITH.

Williams' College.
M. M. VAN ETEN,
C. H. WATSON.

Worcester.
JOSHUA FREEMAN,
HENRY A. WHEELER,
H. F. LELAND,
GEORGE C. WHITNEY,
T. K. EARLE,
L. P. GODDARD.

MICHIGAN.

Detroit.
C. W. ARNOLD,
E. B. MOODY.
Grand Rapids.
MOREAU S. CROSBY.
Olioet.
M. A. BULLOCK.

MINNESOTA.

Minneapolis.
ISAAC C. SEELEY.

St. Paul.
ROBERT SMITH.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Concord.
M. B. CRITCHETT,
W. P. MARDEN.

Manchester.
CHARLES P. WELLMAN,
P. K. CHANDLER,
L. FRENCH.

NEW JERSEY.

Bayonne.
WILLIAM H. IMBRIE,
HENRY C. SELVAGE.

Boonton.
JOHN HILL,
H. C. JENKINS.

Jersey City.
W. L. DOWNS.

Jersey City (Hedding).
G. M. RITTENHOUSE,
CHARLES C. CLARE.

Montclair.
CHARLES B. MORRIS.

New Brunswick.
D. C. ENGLISH,
F. H. STOUT.

Newark.
H. F. OSBORNE,
JAMES S. OSTRANDER,
EDWARD T. CONE,
ELWOOD C. HARRIS,
T. F. JOHNSON.

Newton.
HENRY J. RUDD.

Orange.
C. J. PRESCOTT.

Plainfield.
J. D. SPICER.

Trenton.
JOHN C. TITUS,
JAMES BUCHANAN,
J. C. BROWN,
LEWIS PARKER, Jr.

NEW YORK.

Amsterdam.
A. H. MOORE.

Auburn.
S. B. ALMY.

Brooklyn.
ANTHONY COMSTOCK,
W. M. MARTIN,
S. S. GIDDINGS.

Brooklyn, E. D.
WALLACE P. GROOM,
FRANK R. HIBBARD.
Buffalo.
I. G. JENKINS.

Cornell University.
J. N. COOK.

East Brooklyn.
EDWARD JONES.

Goshen.
B. R. CHAMPION,
C. E. MILLSPAUGH.

Greenpoint.
L. B. HANNAFORD
J. N. STEARNS.

Hudson.
HENRY W. RAOE,
D. C. WILDEY.

New Utrecht.
CHARLES S. WRIGHT,
ANDREW HEGEMAN.

New York.
EDWARD COLGATE,
GEORGE H. ALLEN,
G. A. PINKNEY,
WILLIAM F. LEE,
J. C. HAVEMEYER,
GEORGE M. VANDERLIP,
R. C. MORSE.

New York (Bowery Branch).
JOHN DOOLEY,
JOHN MOSS.

New York (Eastern Branch).
J. F. PATTON,
WM. P. SANDFORD.

New York (Harlem Branch).
JAMES POLLOCK,
A. L. HADDAN.

North Shore (S. I.).
F. N. BARNETT,
W. H. H. DUNN.

Oranget.
D. H. EMERSON, D. D.

Oranget.
T. I. CHATFIELD,

Poughkeepsie.
CHARLES L. WHEELER.

Poughkeepsie.
MITCHELL DOWNING,
HENRY V. PELTON.

Rochester University.
W. S. STICKNEY.

Rome.
H. S. NINDE.

Schenectady.
LOCKWOOD HOYT,
J. J. MARLETT,
WILLIAM WELLS.

Syracuse.
W. T. FRANKLIN,
GEO. A. MOSHER.

Walden.
M. SCHOONMAKER,
THOMAS WOOD.

OHIO.

Cincinnati.
H. THANE MILLER,
JOHN H. CHREVER,
SIMON SMITH,
H. P. HOPKINS.

Cleveland.
WILLIAM BOWLER,
G. W. COBB,
W. J. COOKE,
H. H. HAMLEN,
A. J. TRUESDELL.

Dayton.
H. P. ADAMS,
JOHN DODDS,
C. V. OSBORNE.

Hamilton.
JOHN S. REEDER.

Toledo.
CHARLES DOUGLASS,
T. A. NELSON.

Zanesville.
H. G. O. CARY.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Brookville.
M. H. HALL.

Carlisle.
ALBERT A. LINE,
JOHN GOOD.

Easton.
J. E. WAMBLEY,
P. S. MERRILL.

Frankford.
CHARLES H. WILSON,
THOMAS C. PEARSON.

Germantown.
ALBERT L. KELLY,
M. L. FINCKEL.

Great Bend.
CHARLES E. BALDWIN.

Harrisburg.
DAVID C. KOLB,
J. F. SEILER.

Hulmeville.
E. G. HARRISON,
JESSE H. KNIGHT.

Johnstown.
WM. McLAUGHLIN,
W. A. STEWART.

Lancaster.
WALTER SUTTON.

Borough of Lebanon.
WILLIAM G. WARD.

Penn. College, Gettysburg.
C. H. TRAVERS.

Philadelphia.
THOMAS MARSHALL,
J. J. JOYCE, Jr.,
WILLIAM JOHNSON,
T. A. FERNLEY.

Pittsburg.
H. K. PORTER,
ROBERT A. ORR,
YATES HICKEY,
W. K. JENNINGS.

Scranton.
E. B. STURGES,
THOMAS McCUNE,
CHARLES HENWOOD.

Shippensburg.
W. W. TAYLOR,
J. X. QUIGLEY.

Timberhannock.
J. L. EACE.

Williamsport.
H. H. OTTO.

York.
J. F. STRAWINSKI,
DAVID FAHS,
PETER C. WIEST.

RHODE ISLAND.

Bristol.
J. P. LANE.
Providence.
WARREN R. PERCE,
THOMAS W. CHACE,
W. H. ANDERSON,
LEANDER SCOTT,

C. E. TILLINGHAST,
AMOS C. BARSTOW, JR.,
J. M. TALCOTT.

Westerly.
THOMAS C. CROCKER.

VERMONT.

Burlington.
WILLIAM E. HAZEN,
C. S. HALSEY.
Charlotte.
S. S. PAGE.

Montpelier.
A. J. HOWE,
H. A. SPENCER.

St. Johnsbury.
C. A. SAVAGE.

Wincochi.
HARLOW S. RICE,
HIKAM PADDOCK.

VIRGINIA.

Roanoke College (Salem).
JULIUS D. DREHER.

On motion of H. Thane Miller the report was accepted, with the thanks of the Convention.

The Business Committee, through T. McC. Stewart, made the following report, which was accepted.

EVENING MEETING—SATURDAY, July 12.

Service of Song in the Opera House at $\frac{1}{2}$ to 8 o'clock, led by Wm. Johnson.

Prayer by Rev. Geo. H. Griffin, of Milford, Conn.

Bible Reading by T. A. Nelson, of Toledo. Subject, the "seven *I wills* of Scripture," (80 min.), followed by addresses from the following brethren: Wm. Roche, Jr., Halifax, N. S.; Jas. P. Lane, Bristol, R. I.; Wm. Johnson, Philadelphia, Pa.

Benediction, by Rev. Dr. R. M. Brown, of Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

Farewell meeting at the Opera House to-morrow, at $7\frac{1}{2}$ P. M., preceded by a service of song led by Wm. Johnson, for one-quarter of an hour.

Addresses will be delivered by the following brethren: Joseph A. Bolgiano, Baltimore, Md.; J. S. Ostrander, Newark, N. J.; W. W. Anderson, Charlotte-town, P. E. I.; Wm. Stickney, Washington, D. C.; H. Thane Miller, Cincinnati; John H. Matthews, Poughkeepsie.

An additional meeting will also be held at the Reformed Church, corner Main and Washington streets, at $7\frac{1}{2}$ P. M. to-morrow, in order to accommodate those who may not secure admittance to the Opera House, to be led by Vice-President O. O. Howard, of Washington.

Addresses will be made by F. D. Taylor, Detroit, Mich.; E. T. C. Knowles, S. John, N. B.; J. H. Starkweather, New Haven, Conn.; Jas. P. Verdery, Augusta, Ga.

Geo. A. Hall, of the Devotional Committee, announced Sunday Schools and open-air services, at which delegates would speak, during Sunday.

N. D. Cross, Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, reported as follows:

Resolved, That this Eighteenth Annual Convention of the Y. M. C. A. of the United States and British Provinces, tenders its sincere and hearty thanks to those who have so largely contributed to the pleasure and profitableness of our session, and to the comfort of the delegates:

To the Poughkeepsie Association for its generous reception and entertainment; to the committee and ushers, and to the pages, who have so faithfully

attended upon the sessions of the Convention, and to the citizens of Poughkeepsie for their kindness and hospitality.

To all hotels and railroad and steamboat companies which have made reduction of rates for delegates.

To the pastor and trustees of the Washington Street Methodist Church for the use of its building for the sessions of the Convention.

To the press of Poughkeepsie, whose columns have been so largely devoted to the interests of the Convention.

To the city authorities, and to the pastors of the churches, for cordial sympathy and welcome.

To the citizens generally, who have manifested their interest in the good work in which we are engaged, not only by their attendance upon our sessions, but by their many kind and encouraging words and acts.

Resolved, That the thanks of the delegates attending the Eighteenth International Convention of the Y. M. C. A., at Poughkeepsie, are hereby heartily and earnestly tendered the ladies of this city, who have so nobly devoted time and labor to make our stay among them pleasant.

Adopted, with the following resolution :

Resolved, That the thanks of the Convention are due, and are hereby tendered, to Mr. H. K. Porter, for the fair and impartial manner with which he has presided over the deliberations of the Convention.

On motion of Mr. Cross, of Alabama, the Executive Committee was authorized to print the proceedings of the Convention, and minutes of the afternoon session, without reading.

The Convention then arose and sang

"Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,"

and was dismissed with the Benediction by the Rev. J. P. Lane, of Rhode Island.

Adjourned.

EVENING SESSION—SATURDAY.

The Opera House meeting in the evening was presided over by M. S. Crosby, the first Vice President, and was opened by a short service of song, led by Mr. Johnson. George A. Griffin, Milford, Conn., offered prayer.

Half an hour was then given to a Bible reading by T. A. Nelson, of Toledo; subject, seven "I wills" of Scripture. These were to be found in

Matt. viii. 8; x. 33; xi. 28; iv. 19. John, vi. 40; xiv. 18 & xvii. 24.

These passages were enforced in a short exhortation found on each. Mr. Johnson sang

"To Jesus I will go."

A request for prayers for a young man whose family are Romanists, but who is anxious for his soul and desires to live aright, was presented.

Mr. Miller offered a short prayer in reply to the request.

William Roche, Jr., of Halifax, Nova Scotia, was the next speaker, and showed that God is always willing to save sinners. What is wanted is for the sinner also to say, "I will."

James P. Lane, of Bristol, R. I., asked all to accept Jesus as their friend, that they might be in full sympathy with, and receive blessing from him.

Mr. Miller and Mrs. Platt sang a duett,

"Where do you journey, my brother?"

After which William Johnson, of Philadelphia, delivered the closing address, which was an exhortation similar in earnestness and warmth of appeal to that which had preceded.

The Benediction was pronounced by Rev. R. M. Brown, of Poughkeepsie.

FAREWELL MEETING—SUNDAY EVENING.

At 8 o'clock the meeting was opened in the Opera House by a service of song, led by William Johnson. The Rev. Mr. Parker, of Poughkeepsie, offered prayer.

President H. K. Porter said:

We have come together, dear friends, for the last meeting of this Convention. We are about to separate. As we have already done, let us continue to ask that God will impress by His spirit all that has been said, and establish it to His glory.

The President then introduced William Stickney, of Washington, D. C.:

He urged the importance and value of the Christian life, and the fact that all, men of the world as well as Christians, admitted the emptiness and vanity of life out of Christ. He appealed to all to accept the true, rather than the false.

The vast audience rose and sang

"Jesus lover of my soul."

After which W. W. Anderson, of Prince Edwards Island, spoke of the importance of working *now*, as if each day was our last.

Joseph A. Bolgiano, of Baltimore, Md., addressed especially the young man, whoever he might be, who has not been touched by any appeal made at this Convention. He asked any such person not to defer answering the call of the Spirit because he expected to receive mercy at some future time, and offered all a share in the grace of God, which, like the sunlight, can be enjoyed by all, and yet is ample to supply as many more, and can never be exhausted.

Mr. Miller sang

"Reach me thy hand."

J. S. Ostrander, of Newark, N. J., spoke in a similar strain of effective appeal.

After singing

"In the Cross of Christ I glory."

John H. Matthews, Poughkeepsie, said :

It seems utterly impossible for me to convey to you any adequate sense of the feeling that is in the hearts of the Poughkeepsie Association. We welcomed you with a hearty greeting, because we were right glad to see you. Rapidly has the time slipped away, and now we feel sad as we know you are so soon to leave us. But we bless God that He has brought you here, and we pray that He will send you away clothed with the power of his Spirit. You have come among us, and by your counsels and prayers, in which we have joined, we have been uplifted until with you we have rejoiced to sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. Each one of us is thinking what is to be the influence of this Convention upon me? We have taken counsel together as to how we might better perform the work the Master has given each one of us to do. His voice comes to us, "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Let us obey that blessed voice, and show that it is not in vain that He has conferred upon us, the workers of the Y. M. C. A. of our land and the Provinces, the blessed privilege we have enjoyed of coming here and taking sweet counsel together.

And now, dear brethren, shaking hands with your president, as your representative, I say "Good-bye," which means "God be with you, and bless you with His richest blessings in Christ Jesus."

President Porter :

And abide with you.

Mr. Johnson, Mr. Miller, and Mr. Taggart sang

" I gave my life for thee."

A few moments of silent prayer was followed by an audible petition from Mr. Hodder, of London.

President Porter :

There is another from whom we have as yet heard comparatively little, but to whom we are, as a Convention, under great obligation. We cannot acknowledge too deeply our indebtedness to these brethren of our Executive Committee, and it is with extreme pleasure that we shall hear to-night from their chairman, Cephas Brainerd, of New York.

Mr. Brainerd said :

Let us not forget, throughout the year before us, brethren, as we go away from this the best of our series of eighteen Conventions, the brotherhood of these societies, and the real brotherhood of the men who are in them, for few things will do more to sustain and encourage the weary laborer than this sense of brotherhood and sympathy, continent wide.

Nine years ago I came to the City of Poughkeepsie, at the invitation of some Poughkeepsie friends, to speak at a meeting in which they proposed to organize a Young Men's Christian Association. I remember very well the trembling with which I entered upon my part of the programme ; but, brethren, you have seen how the work has gone on. Then I think my brother said they had only three men they could count upon. How many have you to day ? Then they had no place to meet in ; now they have a beautiful home ; and all in that short period growing out of the work of those few men. But I am told, citizens of Poughkeepsie, that the building is not yet free from debt. You have seen how these men have borne themselves, and the persistent ardor and continuous labor with which they have sustained their cause. You have now seen a specimen of the Associations of the land. They can assemble a dozen other conventions at the same time, composed of men as good. I ask you in all soberness and honesty, as you love your beautiful town, and its good name, don't these men deserve at your hands a solid appreciation of their work for the Master among the young men of Poughkeepsie ? If this is so, you ought not to leave this hall to-night without making up your mind to remove the debt which is a dead weight upon them. There are men and women here to-night who can give to these brethren a home free from incumbrance. And this is due both to them and to the Lord who gave us the joys and homes we have, and who promises a home above to all who love Him.

H. Thane Miller, of Cincinnati, said :

They had been glad in the Welcome Meeting to see the people of Poughkeepsie, but they hadn't then known half how glad they were going to be. He was sure all the delegates had been pleased and interested here, and they would join with him in asking the people to cheer and help this Poughkeepsie Association. Give them your prayers and your help, and come forward with the means to pay off this debt that has been spoken of. Mr. Miller said he had

himself been greatly blessed here, and should never forget the communion with Jesus that had come to him while in this city. . He was thankful also for the attention that had been directed to the study of the Bible. There was a lamentable ignorance of the Word, but he hoped this Convention would be followed by such an earnest study of it in our Associations as we had never yet seen.

Mr. Porter, the President of the Convention, said the thanks of the brethren had been expressed to the people of Poughkeepsie over and over again, and he could not add more to the earnestness of the expression of feeling with which they now said farewell. He would have all the delegates ask the Saviour as Paul did, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" and go home to a fuller consecration and a more devoted life for Christ.

On motion the Convention was then declared adjourned, and the Associations called to meet at Dayton, Ohio, in 1874.

All the delegates then joined hands and sang

"Blest be the tie that binds,"

after which prayer was offered and the Benediction pronounced by Rev. F. B. Wheeler. The audience slowly filed out, but for some time the delegates remained shaking hands and bidding farewell, and thus the Eighteenth International Convention—one that will never be forgotten in Poughkeepsie—came to a close.

There were a large number at the Reformed Church who could not gain admission to the Opera House. The meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Van Giesen. Gen. O. O. Howard presided, and practical, earnest appeals similar to those in the Opera House were made by J. P. Verdery, of Augusta, Ga., F. D. Taylor, of Detroit, E. T. C. Knowles, of St. John, N. B., J. H. Starkweather, of New Haven, Conn., and the presiding officer. After adjourning at 9 P. M., the delegates joined their brethren in the Opera House at the close of the Farewell Meeting.

Resolutions and Recommendations

OF THE CONVENTIONS OF 1864, 1865, 1866, 1867, 1868, 1869, 1870, 1871,
1872, 1873.

I.—RESOLUTIONS RELATING TO THE CONVENTION.

1. REPRESENTATION IN THE CONVENTION.

Evangelical Church Test.

Resolved, That, as these organizations bear the name of Christian, and profess to be engaged directly in the Saviour's service, so it is clearly their duty to maintain the control and management of all their affairs, in the hands of those who profess to love and publicly avow their faith in Jesus, the Redeemer, as Divine, and who testify their faith by becoming and remaining members of churches held to be Evangelical, and that such persons, and none others, should be allowed to vote or hold office.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee and the Corresponding Members are hereby instructed to employ all proper means to secure the adoption of this test of active membership by all the Associations, and especially to secure its incorporation in the most permanent form in the Constitutions of all Associations that may hereafter be formed.—*Detroit*, 1868.

Resolved, That, as these organizations bear the name of Christian and profess to be engaged directly in the Saviour's service, so it is clearly their duty to maintain the control and management of all their affairs in the hands of those who profess to love and publicly avow their faith in Jesus, the Redeemer, as Divine, and who testify their faith by becoming and remaining members of churches held to be Evangelical. And we hold those churches to be Evangelical which, maintaining the Holy Scriptures to be the only infallible rule of faith and practice, do believe in the Lord Jesus Christ (the only begotten of the Father, King of Kings, and Lord of Lords, in whom dwelleth the fullness of the Godhead bodily, and who was made sin for us, though knowing no sin, bearing our sins in His own body on the tree,) as the only name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved from everlasting punishment.

Resolved, That the Associations organized after this date shall be entitled to representation in future Conference of the Associated Y. M. C. Associations of North America, upon conditions that they be severally composed of young men in communion with Evangelical churches (provided that in places where Associations are formed by a single denomination, members of other denominations are not excluded therefrom) and active membership, and the right to hold office be conferred only upon young men who are members in good standing in Evangelical churches.—*Portland*, 1869.

Resolved, That Associations of one hundred members, or less, be represented in the Annual Conventions by three delegates, and that for every additional hundred members, or fraction of a hundred exceeding fifty, one additional dele-

gate be allowed ; but that no delegation shall be composed of more than fifteen members. Representation to be based on male membership only.

Resolved, That hereafter, the delegates to the Annual Convention of Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces be selected from the list of active members only of the various Associations to be represented.—*Montreal*, 1867.

Resolved, That this Convention adheres to the rule prescribing the rate of representation as fixed by the Montreal Convention, the same being computed upon an enumeration of all active members.

Resolved, That in estimating the basis of representation, only those shall be counted who have paid their dues as members of the Associations ; and that in the enumeration made up for the Reports to the Convention, only such members shall be included.—*Detroit*, 1868.

Resolved, That the ratio of representation in the International Conventions shall be as follows : Two delegates from each Association of one hundred members, or less, and one additional delegate for each additional one hundred members ; but no Association shall be allowed more than fifteen delegates ; the election of delegates to be governed in all respects by the rules and resolutions of the International Conventions.

Resolved, That no Association be placed upon the rolls prepared for future Conventions, by the Executive Committee, unless the Executive Committee have been previously furnished with a copy of the Constitution of such Association, and the number of its members of each class.—*Washington*, 1871.

2. WELCOME MEETING.—*Resolved*, That this Convention recommend that the evening of the day of organization of future Conventions be devoted to a social gathering of the delegation, and that the Association entertaining the Convention be requested to arrange for the same.—*Portland*, 1869.

3. *Resolved*, That in making arrangements for the next annual Convention, the Executive Committee, in preparing its business, arrange for not less than three successive days and evenings to be devoted to the business of the Convention, thus leaving the Convention the privilege of accepting or rejecting any invitation that may be presented to them.—*Philadelphia*, 1865.

4. COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.—*Resolved*, That a Special Committee of three be appointed by the President at the opening session, to which all resolutions, memorials and propositions shall be handed on or before the second day of the session of the Convention, each paper to contain the name of the proposer, and the name of the Association he represents. These documents to be at once referred without reading.—*Detroit*, 1868.

5. COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.—*Rule*, The Executive Committee shall, before the meeting of each Convention, appoint a Committee on Credentials, to consist of seven members, who shall receive the credentials of delegates as they reach the place of meeting, and report the same to the Convention during its session.—*Lowell*, 1872.

II. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ASSOCIATIONS AND THEIR WORK.

1. APPOINTMENT OF THE COMMITTEE.—[At Chicago, 1863, five members in Philadelphia were appointed as the committee ; at Boston, 1864, five members

in Boston were appointed ; at Philadelphia, 1865, five members in Philadelphia were appointed.]

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be located for three years at New York, and to consist of five members (three to constitute a quorum) ; and that the Committee be chosen annually by the Convention, with power to fill vacancies.—*Albany*, 1866.

Resolved, (1.) That the Executive Committee be located, for the three years next ensuing, in the City of New York, and consist of seven members, and that the Committee have power to fill vacancies.

(2.) That the Committee be composed of the following persons, viz : Cephas Brainerd, Timothy G. Sellew, Jr., Robt. R. McBurney, Jas. Stokes, Jr., Wm. F. Lee, Morris K. Jesup.

(3.) That the Executive Committee announce in their first circular to the Corresponding Members, the time and place of their stated meetings, and urge their attendance as members of the same.—*Portland*, 1869.

Resolved, That the following be adopted, and added to the Rules of the Convention :

Rule.—An Executive Committee, to consist of seven members, shall be appointed by the Convention, to continue in office for three years, and until their successors are appointed, whose duty it shall be to prepare and bring before each Convention business for its consideration ; to transact after the adjournment of such Convention any business entrusted to its charge ; to arrange for transportation, at reduced rates, of persons attending conventions ; and who may, upon an emergency requiring immediate action, adopt such measures as may be necessary, not inconsistent with the action of preceding Conventions, reporting the same to the next succeeding Convention for its approval. The ordinary sessions of the Executive Committee shall be held in the City of New York.

Resolved, That this Convention, recognizing the difficult, delicate and arduous duties devolved upon the Executive Committee, expresses its thanks to the brethren who during the past six years have constituted that Committee, for their able, faithful and efficient services, to which in a large measure is due the wonderful advance during that period in numbers and usefulness of our organizations.

Resolved, That Cephas Brainerd, James Stokes, Jr., Timothy G. Sellew, Jr., Robert R. McBurney, Edgar A. Hutchins, Benjamin R. Wetmore and Verranus Morse, be reappointed as the Executive Committee for the ensuing three years.—*Lowell*, 1872.

2. PUBLICATION OF PERIODICALS BY THE COMMITTEE.—*Resolved*, That the Executive Committee publish a quarterly journal, when 500 subscribers shall have been secured at 50 cents per year.

Resolved, That we further recommend the sending of a brief report each quarter, from each Association, to the Executive Committee, in order that a review of the work throughout the land may be given in the journal to be published.—*Albany*, 1866.

Resolved, That the Corresponding Members of the Executive Committee be, and they are hereby instructed to make, at least, quarterly reports of all Association matters on their own fields, to the Executive Committee ; and that the same be made at least four weeks before the days fixed for the regular issue of the *Quarterly*.—*Detroit*, 1868.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be authorized to continue the publication of the periodical as the organ of the Association, in monthly numbers of 32 octavo pages each, at the subscription price of \$1 per year, provided there is guaranteed to them a list of not less than 3,000 subscribers, and that the Associations be urged by this Convention to secure as many subscribers as possible.—*Portland*, 1869.

Resolved, That as a part of the general work of these Associations, it is the duty of the entire membership to do all in their power to increase the circulation of the *Monthly*, by adding to its list of subscribers, and that they should not be content until it embraces a number corresponding to that of the membership.—*Indianapolis*, 1870.

Resolved, That this Convention hereby reaffirms the resolutions of the last Convention in regard to the *Monthly*, and directs that its publication be continued, *provided*,

1. That the subscriptions made at this Convention, either directly for copies of the paper, or to a fund for its support and circulation until it becomes self-sustaining, be such as to insure the members of the Committee against personal liability for the expense of publication.

2. That the committee be and it is hereby authorized, if in its judgment it deem best, to effect an incorporation for the purpose of such publication; but the property in said paper and the good will thereof, is to be and continue, as it now is, to be held in trust for the benefit of the Associations, and under the legal control of the Executive Committee as the representative of the Conventions.—*Washington*, 1871.

Resolved, That this Convention cordially endorses the conduct of the *Association Monthly*, during the past year, and that the Executive Committee be empowered to continue its publication in its present form, or, if in their judgment deemed expedient, to substitute for the same a weekly periodical, having a like general character, provided such change can be made without involving additional liability on the part of the Committee, and that full authority be given for the adoption of such measures, by increase of subscription rates or otherwise, as will provide for the expense of such publication.—*Lowell*, 1872.

Whereas, In the judgment of the Executive Committee it is impossible and therefore they have ceased to publish the *Association Monthly*; and whereas, they have arranged that all items of Association News, until future notice, appear in the *Illustrated Christian Weekly*, therefore,

Resolved, That this Convention endorse the action of the Executive Committee and recommend that all Associations subscribe for said weekly journal.—*Poughkeepsie*, 1873.

3. THE ASSOCIATION HYMN BOOK.—*Resolved*, That in the Hymn and Tune Book ("Songs of Devotion") prepared at the suggestion of our last Convention, at Portland, by W. H. Doane, of Cincinnati, Ohio, and published by Messrs. Biglow & Main, of New York City, we find a work not only admirably adapted for use in our Young Men's Christian Conventions and Associations, but eminently fitted for devotional exercises and social meetings, and we recommend and urge its adoption for general use.—*Indianapolis*, 1870.

Resolved, That the use of the hymn book, "Songs of Devotions," is earnestly recommended to the Associations; but, as the price is a great obstacle in the

way of its general adoption, we beg to suggest to the publishers the propriety of issuing a cheaper edition.—*Washington*, 1871.

CERTIFICATE OF LIFE MEMBERSHIP.—*Resolved*, That the certificate of life membership, submitted in the Report of the Executive Committee, be and the same hereby is approved and adopted; and that they cause the same to be lithographed or engraved, and that copies be sold to the Associations at such prices as will secure the Committee against loss.—*Indianapolis*, 1870.

Resolved, That we recommend for use among the Associations the Life Membership Certificate prepared by the Executive Committee under the instructions of the Portland Convention, and approved by the Indianapolis Convention.—*Washington*, 1871.

LETTERS OF INTRODUCTION FOR YOUNG MEN.—*Resolved*, That in all cases where young men remove from the jurisdiction of one Association to that of another, we recommend the sending of a letter of introduction.—*Albany*, 1866.

Resolved, That this Convention recommend that all Associations make it a special duty to urge clergymen, and other friends of young men, who are about to locate in other cities, to furnish them with letters to the Christian Associations in those cities, so that they may find themselves at once among Christian friends and under good influences.—*Montreal*, 1867.

Resolved, That the form for letters of introduction and acknowledgment recommended in the Report of the Executive Committee be, and the same is hereby adopted and recommended to the Association, and the Committee is hereby instructed to cause the same to be printed and distributed among the Associations, and that they prepare a corresponding form for the introduction of young men not members of the Association.—*Indianapolis*, 1870.

4. OTHER PUBLICATIONS.—*Resolved*, That the Executive Committee be instructed to prepare a list of Associations, with the address of some member in each, to whom communications can be sent. A copy of said list to be sent to each Association.—*Albany*, 1866.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be instructed to prepare, for the use of their Corresponding Members, a document containing information relative to the formation of Young Men's Christian Associations, and containing suggestions upon the best methods of prosecuting their labors.—*Montreal*, 1867.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be authorized to make such arrangements as they may deem best as to publishing the periodicals, or in any other way securing a publication of the news from the Associations.—*Portland*, 1869.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee compile and codify from the proceedings of the Annual Conventions since 1863, the various resolutions and declarations relating to the government of the Conventions and Associations connected with them, with the rules of order, which shall be published as the permanent rules of the Young Men's Christian Associations in their associate action.

Resolved, That said Committee also compile the various declarations and deliverances of such Conventions relative to the position, organization, principles and work of Associations, together with such explanations and expositions as they may deem expedient, not inconsistent with the publications heretofore made by said Committee, and that the same be published with the permanent rules as the Manual of Associations heretofore ordered.—*Lowell*, 1872.

Resolved, That the preparation of the Association Manual be recommitted to the Executive Committee, and that it be prepared and published as soon as they shall feel that the work is sufficiently matured to justify it.—*Poughkeepsie*, 1873.

5 VISITATION UNDER DIRECTION OF THE COMMITTEE.—*Resolved*, That this Convention instruct the Executive Committee to employ an agent to aid in the organization of Young Men's Christian Associations on the line of the Pacific Railroad, and in such other sections as may be determined; and they hereby are instructed to call State or District Conventions of the Associations on their own fields during the year, either in their own names as the representatives of this Convention or in connection with the local Executive Committees, in all cases when the same is practicable.—*Detroit*, 1868.

Resolved, That this Convention instruct the Executive Committee to employ an agent to aid in the organization of Young Men's Christian Associations on the line of the Pacific Railroad, and in such other sections as may be determined upon after mature deliberation; and your Committee would suggest that the funds necessary for the carrying forward of this work be raised by the Executive Committee, they to send circulars to the Corresponding Members, who shall solicit contributions from *individuals* interested in our work; failing in this, to send these circulars to the various Associations, who should not fail to respond with the amount necessary.—*Portland*, 1869.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be, and they hereby are, authorized, out of the proceeds from the copyright of the Hymn-Book, ("Songs of Devotion,") the profits of the *Monthly*, or from donations received by them, and not otherwise appropriated, to employ a suitable person to visit the Associations in the British Provinces, the Eastern, Middle, and Central Western States, or to engage therein in organizing new Associations, such work to be undertaken in harmony with the views of the Corresponding Members respectively.—*Indianapolis*, 1870.

6. GENERAL WORK.—*Resolved*, That the wonderful progress of the institution in whose interest we are assembled, has reached, under God's blessing, such proportions, and gives so great promise as to future growth and usefulness, that in the judgment of this Convention, the time has come when the Executive Committee should be instructed and empowered to make such subdivision of its prerogatives and responsibilities as shall secure the more thorough and detailed systematizing of the work among the States and Provinces represented in this body; and this Convention does hereby request and authorize such action by the Executive Committee as shall fully organize the institution as a religious power on this continent.—*Portland*, 1869.

Resolved, That a sum of not less than \$7,000 be raised for the prosecution of the general work of the coming year.—*Poughkeepsie*, 1873.

7. GENERAL SECRETARY.—*Resolved*, That until otherwise provided, the Executive Committee be authorized to employ a General Secretary, who shall, under their direction, perform such duties as they may require.—*Lowell*, 1872.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be authorized to continue the employment of a General Secretary, and such other agents as the money in their hands may warrant for the prosecution of their work.—*Poughkeepsie*, 1873.

III.—CORRESPONDING MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Resolved, That the Corresponding Members of the Executive Committee be instructed to use every means in their power for the organization of Associations in their respective districts.—*Albany*, 1866.

Resolved, That every corresponding member be required to report to the Executive Committee four times each year, viz: February, May, August, and November.—*Portland*, 1869.

Resolved, That, in future, the names of persons to act as corresponding members be designated, as far as practicable, by the State Conventions respectively, and that the Executive Committee communicate with each Corresponding Member for the present year, calling attention to this resolution.—*Washington*, 1871.

RULE.—Each Convention shall appoint one Corresponding Member from each State, District, Territory and Province, who shall be its local representative, and shall, under the direction and advice of the Executive Committee, communicate with each Association within its respective jurisdiction, and with any general organization thereof; and who shall perform any duty in relation thereto which the Convention or Committee may require.

Meetings of Executive Committee and Corresponding Members of each Convention.—A meeting of the Executive Committee and Corresponding Members, for consultation and to secure united action, shall be held during the session, or immediately on the adjournment thereof; and said Committee and Corresponding Members shall hold at least one other meeting during each year, at such time and place as the Executive Committee may designate; and to secure a full attendance at such meeting, the general organization of each State, Territory and Province is requested to make provision for defraying the traveling expenses of its Corresponding Member to and from the place of meeting.—*Lowell*, 1872.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be instructed to prepare a circular for the information and direction of Corresponding Members.—*Washington*, 1871.

Resolved, That the Corresponding Members of the Committee be positively directed to call, during the year, a Convention of the Associations on their field, in all cases where provision is not made for one by some other local authority; and as either by death or absolute refusal to perform the functions of Corresponding Member, the work may be retarded in certain States, it is hereby directed that in such cases the office of Corresponding Member be declared vacant, and the Executive Committee appoint a new Corresponding Member.—*Poughkeepsie*, 1873.

IV.—STATE AND PROVINCIAL CONVENTIONS.

Resolved, That the Convention instruct the Corresponding Member of the Executive Committee for each State, District, Territory and Province to call annually in the autumn (after consultation with the Associations) a Convention of the Associations in such State, District, Territory and Province.—*Albany*, 1866.

Resolved, That we earnestly recommend the holding of State and Local Conventions, for the discussion of practical topics, intimately connected with our work ; and that the Corresponding Members of the Executive Committee of each State and Province be requested to correspond at an early date with the Associations in their field upon this subject.—*Montreal*, 1867.

Resolved, That the Corresponding Members of the Executive Committee be, and they hereby are, instructed to call State or District Conventions of the Associations on their own fields during the year, either in their own names, as the representatives of this Convention, or in connection with the local Executive Committees, in all cases when the same is practicable.—*Detroit*, 1868.

Resolved, That in calling the State Conventions, the Corresponding Members of the Executive Committee be and hereby are requested to communicate with each other and with the Executive Committee, in regard to the times of holding the same, to the end that those held in adjoining States may be so convened as to facilitate the plan of the members of the Executive Committee to be represented at all such Conventions.

Resolved, That we deeply feel the necessity of further urging upon the Corresponding Members of the different States, Districts and Provinces, the great importance of State Conventions.—*Indianapolis*, 1870.

STATE AND DISTRICT CONVENTIONS.—*Resolved*, First, That this Convention adopts the enunciations contained in the report of the Executive Committee in reference to State and District Conventions, and directs the Executive Committee and Corresponding Members, in all cases where the same is possible, to call such Conventions after conference with local committees and prominent Christian men. Second, That at such Conventions the number of delegates from Associations should be unlimited, and churches located in towns where Associations are not established, should be invited to send delegates to sit as Corresponding Members.—*Portland*, 1869.

Resolved, That the Corresponding Members be instructed to arrange for and hold Conventions of the Young Men's Christian Associations in their respective States, Territories, Districts, and Provinces, and that they make every exertion to secure the attendance of young men from places where there are no Associations. And this Convention urges upon the corresponding members the duty and great importance of a frequent and regular correspondence with the Executive Committee.—*Washington*, 1871.

V.—STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES.

Whereas, Good has attended systematic organization for the prosecution of the work of the Associations in several of the States, where State Central Committees have been appointed, therefore,

Resolved, That this Convention heartily endorses such measures, and considers them a sign of advancement in the prosecution of our noble work.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the different Associations represented in this Convention, that they take some measures previous to the adjournment of this body, for the appointing State Executive Committees in every State where such Committees do not now exist.—*Washington*, 1871.

VI.—ASSOCIATION WORK.

1. SPHERE OF THE WORK.—*Resolved*, That Young Men's Christian Associations are organized specially to labor for and among young men; that they constitute a Union Board of the Church of Christ, charged with the performance of a specific duty; that in the prosecution of their work, the Associations, as such, have no politics, and know no distinctions among men except between those who love Christ and those who love Him not; and that it does not fall within the sphere of their duties to take part in any controversy, or to make official deliverance upon any topic, however commendable in itself, or however it may appeal to the Christian or humanitarian sympathies of individuals, which does not relate directly to the work of evangelization among young men by the agencies appropriate to their own organization.—*Washington*, 1871.

2. SPIRITUAL WORK.—*Resolved*, That it is the duty of our members to make special personal efforts for the salvation of stranger young men, to greet them as brothers beloved in the Lord, whose souls are precious in the Master's sight, and to give them the cordial grasp of the Christian hand, warm with the love of the Christian heart; and that in the performance of this duty, pride must be deposed, false dignity be dethroned, and diffidence overcome. Imitating the example of our blessed Saviour, may it be our delight to go about doing good; and, making it our meat and drink to do our Father's will, however and wherever manifested, until we shall finally, with those whom God has given us, rest from labor and enjoy its fruit!—*Detroit*, 1868.

3. THE GENERAL OR CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.—That we coincide with the opinion of Executive Committee, contained in suggestion No. 7, upon the desirableness of making the Corresponding Secretary of each Association a permanent officer, instead of making an annual change in this office, believing that such action would conduce to greater efficiency in this important department.—*Montreal*, 1867.

4. BOARD OF MANAGERS.—“*Resolved*, That in selecting Board of Managers, the International Convention recommend to the different Associations that they select *active, working* members, having reference as far as practicable to the representation of each evangelical denomination, but that no constitutional restrictions be permitted to stand in the way of securing active working Christians on these Boards.”—*Lowell*, 1872.

5. LAY PREACHING.—*Resolved*, That this Convention heartily approve of lay preaching, not because it considers laymen better preachers than the clergymen, but because the preaching of the gospel to the whole world is too large a work for the ministry alone to do, and too important a work to be left undone; that we recommend that our Associations undertake the work of lay preaching; that each Association select and appoint, for this work, so many of its members as it deems necessary and competent; that the qualifications of those who engage in the work should be earnest piety, an unstained character, good sense and aptness to teach, and that the services should be short, varied in their character, and in all cases where possible, the preacher should be aided by an efficient corps of singers, and of brethren ready to either pray or exhort.

6. PRAYER MEETINGS, DAILY AND WEEKLY.—*Resolved*, That in the daily prayer meetings which have been established throughout the land, this Convention recognizes a means whereby Christian union may be encouraged and

strengthened, and also whereby the gifts and graces of our young men may be called out and made greatly serviceable to both saints and sinners.

Resolved, That we recommend to all associated with us in the extension of the gospel of Christ, that such meetings, wherever established, receive all the aid in our power to render, and that where they do not exist in any town or city, an effort be made at once to originate them.—*Montreal*, 1867.

Resolved, That all Associations throughout the land be earnestly recommended to organize and maintain Association prayer-meetings, and that, wherever practicable, they be held daily.—*Detroit*, 1868.

7. COTTAGE AND OPEN-AIR MEETINGS, TRACT DISTRIBUTION, JAIL WORK, &c.—In view of the urgent necessity for reaching young men and others among the poorer classes, and of bringing around them the restraints of Christian influences; and whereas, tenement house and cottage prayer-meetings, by which the gospel is carried to them in their own homes, is the most effectual means of accomplishing this purpose; therefore,

Resolved, That this Convention recommend to the especial attention of its members the above subjects, as well as,

- (1.) Persevering and universal tract distribution.
- (2.) That with this tract distribution be united inquiry as to the denominational preferences of those who neglect the church, in order that they may be introduced to the notice of pastors and churches of such denominations.
- (3.) That out-door meetings and street-preaching be employed as far as possible.

In the employment of these means, systematic Christian visitation is indispensable, together with such other means as may seem especially adapted to the peculiar circumstances of each community.—*Philadelphia*, 1865.

Resolved, That the Convention honors the Christian Press of America, and recommends that the Associations avail themselves of this instrumentality more than ever before, at the same time imploring them to do all in their power to enlist for our work a warmer sympathy and a more earnest co-operation and support.

2. That we depend on Christians everywhere to give us the means to scatter good tracts and books abundantly.

3. That the various tract and religious publication societies deserve our thanks for the pains they have taken to give us inexpensive, pointed and attractive little books, well adapted as means for saving souls.—*Detroit*, 1868.

Resolved, That having evidence of great success attending the open-air meetings inaugurated by our Associations, the Convention recommend to all Associations the formation of committees to conduct such exercises wherever it is deemed practicable.—*Portland*, 1869.

Resolved, That this Convention recognizes as a useful field of labor for the Master, the large number of young men confined in the jails, penitentiaries and reformatory institutions of the land.—*Washington*, 1871.

8. BOARDING HOUSES : *Whereas*, Large numbers of young men congregate in towns and cities, away from home influences and parental restraints, and where multitudes of them are led into evil courses, from being crowded in boarding-houses, destitute of all moral and Christian influences; therefore be it

Resolved, That we hereby recommend that a carefully prepared list of boarding houses, pervaded by a kindly Christian influence, be kept at the rooms of each Association on this continent ; and

Resolved, That the members of these Associations be recommended to render every assistance in their power to young men who may be thrown as strangers in their midst, and seeking homes.—*Albany*, 1866.

9. RAILROAD LITERATURE : *Resolved*, That the character of the literature supplied to passengers on railways and steamboats is calculated to lower rather than to elevate the standard of Christian morals, and the Associations represented in this Convention will be well employed in using earnest efforts to obtain some improvements in this direction.—*Portland*, 1869.

10. IN COLLEGES : *Resolved*, That this Convention hails with joy the organization, in some of our Academies and Colleges, of Young Men's Christian Associations, and commends this feature of our work in behalf of the young men of America, and hopes that Christian Associations may be planted wherever practicable in our Academies, Colleges and Universities, and that we urge especially such societies already existing, that they seek to extend their work in this important field.—*Indianapolis*, 1870.

11. IN THE SOUTH : *Resolved*, That we are gratified to know that the Executive Committee have during the past year encouraged in every way possible the formation of Associations in the South, which action we hereby heartily endorse, and assure such Associations of our abiding interest in their success.—*Portland*, 1869.

12. AMONG COLORED MEN : *Resolved*, That the delegates of all Associations be especially requested to aid in the formation of Colored Associations throughout the South.—*Montreal*, 1867.

13. AMONG FOREIGNERS : *Resolved*, That in the greatly increased immigration from all parts of the world to the United States, we recognize the hand of God, and rejoice at the enlarged opportunity of sowing seed beside all waters, and that it is the duty of our young men to watch, labor and pray that God may enable them to reach all classes of foreigners arriving upon our shores, and especially the Chinese and other Asiatic races.—*Portland*, 1869.

14. AMONG GERMANS : *Resolved*, That our Christian Associations should extend to our German fellow-citizens their earnest sympathy, and endeavor to gather their young men within their influence ; and where the necessity may exist should encourage the formation of German Associations among the Germans themselves.—*Indianapolis*, 1870.

VII.—MEMBERSHIP. (For evangelical church test, see No. I.)

VITAL PIETY.—*Resolved*, That we heartily concur in the following declarations, adopted in the World's Conference of Young Men's Christian Associations, held at Elberfeld, August, 1865:

(1.) That it is one of the chief duties of Young Men's Christian Associations to awaken, preserve, and advance the communion of Christian life amongst young men.

(2.) That this communion of Christian life can only be truly healthy and blessed when it comes from the true communion of the heart with God.

(3.) That the Associations have, before all things, to strive that this communion with God be awakened amongst young men by faithful use of the means of grace, and diligent study of God's Word.

(4.) That this Conference can only regard those Associations as having the true principles of Association before them, which cherish this communion of Christian life, resulting from the hidden communion of the heart with God.—*Albany, 1866.*

WOMEN AS MEMBERS.—*Resolved*, That it is neither the province nor the duty of this Convention to decide upon the question of the propriety of admitting ladies to membership in Young Men's Christian Associations; but that each Association must decide that matter for itself, upon a consideration of all the circumstances by which it is surrounded.—*Detroit, 1868.*

VIII.—RELATIONS TO CHURCHES AND MINISTERS.

Resolved, That we consider it the bounden duty of the members of all Young Men's Christian Associations calling themselves Christians, to hold their duties and obligations to their respective churches, and to the services of the same, as having a prior claim upon their sympathy and efforts.

Resolved, That in the prosecution of the work for the Saviour among young men which they have assumed, they should heartily and zealously co-operate with the divinely appointed ministry, and with all Evangelical bodies of Christians.—*Portland, 1869.*

Resolved, That we earnestly recommend all the Christian Associations of our country to use such measures as they deem best to bring and commend the glorious work of the ministry of the gospel, to the attention of pious young men.

Resolved, That in theory and practice the Young Men's Christian Association recognizes the essential unity of the Church of Christ, and is bound to extend the hand of fellowship, love and sympathy to all who, in accordance with the gospel, honor the Head, and who love the Lord Jesus, whatever their ecclesiastical name, or the peculiarities of their denominational polity. The shibboleths of sect, the rules of church order and discipline, the minor differences in creeds, must, therefore, in the nature of the case, be ignored by us, unless, by our unwise interference, we are willing to risk the destruction and dissolution of the fair fabric which has cost so much of faith, and prayer, and labor to rear.

Resolved, That, while as individuals we may most properly allow our hearts to go out in sympathy towards our fellow members—brethren beloved in the Lord—who have been made the subjects of discipline by the communions to which they respectively belong, it is not in the province of wisdom, nor do these, our brethren, desire that any formal notice or action be taken by this Convention or the Associations as such, of the unhappy circumstances referred to. To take such action would be to assume a censorship which the Master has not appointed us to exercise, and in exercising which we peril the further usefulness and even existence of the institution we so dearly cherish.—*Detroit, 1868*

Resolved, That one of the most important objects of Young Men's Christian Associations, is the encouragement, by counsel and advice, in aiding and assist-

ing by influence and pecuniarily. if possible, all worthy and competent young men who desire to enter the gospel ministry.—*Indianapolis*, 1870.

IX. DAY OF PRAYER.

Resolved, That this Convention recommend to the Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces, to set apart the first Sunday in November as a day of prayer for the increase and spiritual prosperity of the Young Men's Christian Associations throughout the world.

Resolved, That we invite all kindred Associations in every land to unite with us on that day in praying for this object.

Resolved, That we most earnestly request the clergy generally to address their congregations on that day on the object and work of Young Men's Christian Associations.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be, and they are hereby, requested to issue a circular before the 15th day of September next, calling the attention of the Young Men's Christian Associations of the world to the action of this Convention.—*Albany*, 1866.

Resolved, That the second Sabbath in November next be especially set apart as a day of prayer for the blessing of Almighty God to rest upon our work, and that the Associations throughout the world seek to obtain the co-operation of all the clergymen in the observance of the day.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be instructed to issue a circular containing a copy of this resolution, to the Young Men's Christian Associations throughout the world ; and that the Associations be requested to report the results as soon as practicable to the Committee.—*Detroit*, 1868.

[N. B.—This action has been reaffirmed by every succeeding convention.]

WEEK OF PRAYER.—*Resolved*, That it be the duty of Associations, wherever located, in city, town or country, to make the most complete arrangements to secure the general observance of the week of prayer, wherever the churches of the locality have not made any such arrangements.—*Indianapolis*, 1870.

X. TEMPERANCE AND OTHER MORAL REFORM.

Resolved, That this Convention recommends to the various Associations the necessity as well as the propriety of a more extended labor in behalf of the Temperance cause, in order that the great evil of intemperance may be checked as far as possible, and ultimately removed, and that the Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces be requested to make use of such agencies as may seem proper for the accomplishment of this great end.—*Boston*, 1864.

Resolved, That this Convention, in the name of the Associations they represent, honor the cause of temperance, and recognize, with affectionate interest, the earnest men who are engaged in it. And while the proper work of Young Men's Christian Associations is sufficient reason to excuse their entering actively, as Associations, into the temperance cause, the Convention gladly and earnestly desire that every member should individually use his best talent and influence in that cause everywhere.—*Montreal*, 1867.

Whereas, While we are painfully conscious of facts and statistics on the subject of intemperance, which are of the most startling and alarming character ; and

Whereas, the specific work of Young Men's Christian Associations, is of so absorbing a character as to demand all our energies in its direct prosecution, so that we cannot wisely and safely recommend that our Associations, any more than our Christian Churches, should become temperance organizations ; yet,

Resolved, That we do seriously advise that every member in our Association should consider it his duty to be heartily engaged in rigid opposition to intemperance, the great enemy of the Church of Christ, and that not only we, but every Church member on the Continent, should be alive to the work ; and further,

That we, in the name of the Association, would also most heartily recommend that all who love the Lord Jesus should put forth earnest and persistent efforts to establish and maintain temperance organizations in places where none exist, and especially that our entire force of workers, as individuals, should organize immediately and help sustain juvenile temperance societies, with a view to prevent, effectually, the evil practice of intemperance and its attendant and damning vices upon the rising generation.—*Detroit*, 1868.

Resolved, That the above resolution on temperance, printed on the 98th page of the Proceedings of the Portland Convention, be amended by substituting "total abstinence" for "temperance" wherever the latter word occurs.—*Lowell*, 1872.

Resolved, That this Convention recommend that the right and wrong of the intricate question involved in the use of tobacco and other narcotics be left for each individual to decide between himself and his Saviour, after much prayer.—*Portland*, 1869.

XI. SABBATH OBSERVANCE.

Resolved, That this Convention views with great concern the persistent efforts to undermine and abolish the civil laws enforcing the observance of the Sabbath day, and would earnestly press upon the young men of this Continent the importance and necessity of constant vigilance to maintain the sanctity of a day hallowed by all the dearest associations of our Christian homes, and ordained by the direct command of Almighty God.—*Indianapolis*, 1870.

Resolved, That this Convention is deeply interested in all proper efforts made to promote the better observance of the Christian Sabbath, and it therefore hails with pleasure the formation of all Sabbath Associations, whose object it is by moral influences through personal effort, the pulpit and the press, to create a sound public sentiment upon this vitally important subject.—*Washington*, 1871.

XII. LECTURE BUREAU.

Resolved, That we recommend that R. R. McBurney, of New York ; Rev. William M. Martin, of Brooklyn ; and John I. Platt, of Poughkeepsie, be constituted a Committee to devise a plan for a Young Men's Christian Association Lecture Bureau, and to carry it into execution at once.—*Detroit*, 1868.

Whereas, It is unnecessary to longer continue the Lecture Bureau, as a special agent of the Young Men's Christian Associations beyond the current lecture season ; therefore,

Resolved, That after the arrangements already made, it revert to the present Secretary, and that the Convention bespeak for the Bureau under its new management the patronage of the Young Men's Christian Associations.—*Indianapolis*, 1870.

XIII. AMUSEMENTS.

Whereas, Dancing, card-playing, theatre-going and intemperance in various forms are to a fearful extent becoming the besetting sins of professing Christians in this country ; and

Whereas, All who do these things are thus vainly striving to do what our Saviour has explicitly declared to be impossible when He said, "Ye cannot serve God and mammon ;" and

Whereas, To all such that Scripture which saith, "Woe unto those who are at ease in Zion," is applicable ; therefore be it

Resolved, That it is the duty of all Young Men's Christian Associations, and of every member of each of said Associations, to oppose these sins by all the means in their power ; and especially to oppose them by their example in abstaining from them.—*Boston*, 1864.

Whereas, The time has arrived when circumstances make it our duty, as a Convention of Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces, to express our judgment upon the relations of amusements to Christianity, as embodied in this organization ; therefore be it

Resolved, That we bear our energetic testimony against dancing, card and billiard playing, as so distinctively worldly in their associations, and unspiritual in their influence, as to be utterly inconsistent with our professions as the disciples of Christ.

Resolved, That in view of the fact that in addition to the purely spiritual needs of young men, their natures crave some form of amusing recreation, we earnestly advise the adoption of any kind of amusement which may be harmless in itself, and not made injurious by worldly associations, and which shall impart a home atmosphere to our rooms.

Resolved, That while we thus recognize a need of our common nature, and advise our local societies to provide for it, we must earnestly insist upon the duty of making this subordinate to our high spiritual work, as a means to the attainment of the great aim of the salvation of the soul and its preparation for practical usefulness for Christ.—*Albany*, 1866.

Resolved, That this Convention regards the introduction of games into the rooms of Young Men's Christian Associations, for the entertainment or amusement of young men, as fraught with evil, dangerous to the best interests of Associations, compromising to Christian integrity, and dishonoring to the blessed Master and Teacher, the Lord Jesus Christ.—*Montreal*, 1867.

XIV. PERNICIOUS LITERATURE.

The Convention, fully recognizing the wide-spread and terrible influence of pernicious literature, and the importance of taking earnest and vigorous measures to counteract it, is of the opinion that it belongs to the members of

individual Associations to determine what measures are best adapted to this purpose in their respective localities. This Convention, therefore, refers the whole subject to them, earnestly recommending them to do all in their power to destroy the influence of pernicious literature, and for this purpose to call public attention to, and awaken public interest in this subject by promoting discussions through the press and the pulpit, to use their personal influence with railroad corporations and newsdealers to stop the sale of pernicious books and papers, and with all families, and especially all young men within their influence, to stop the purchase thereof, and to do all in their power to enlarge the efficiency of their reading rooms and libraries, and otherwise to promote the circulation of a healthful Christian literature.—*Poughkeepsie*, 1873.

REPORT

OF THE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF THE

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS

OF THE

UNITED STATES AND BRITISH PROVINCES,

PRESENTED TO THE POUGHKEEPSIE CONVENTION, JULY 9, 1873

(WITH ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS.)



New York:

PUBLISHED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

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REPORT

To the Eighteenth Annual Convention of the Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces:

The Executive Committee re-appointed at Lowell for three years, and located at New York, presents the following as its Seventh Annual Report.

I.—The reports of the Corresponding Members of this Committee, from New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Ontario and Quebec, Alabama, District of Columbia, Georgia, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, New Jersey, New Hampshire, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina and Vermont, are appended to this report; and also the reports of Richard C. Morse, General Secretary, and Robert Weidensall, General Agent.

II.—State and Local Conventions have been held as follows during the past year: Maritime Provinces, Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, Alabama, Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island Vermont, and West Virginia.

At eight of these the Committee was represented by one of its members, or by the General Secretary. These gatherings increase in usefulness every year, and are of inestimable value to our work. They are gradually ceasing to be religious mass meetings, and take on more and more the character of an institute, where the proper work of the Associations is calmly discussed, and every effort made to instruct those just commencing it. At the evening sessions the exercises are of a general character, very largely attended, and are fruitful of precious results in the awakening of the unconverted.

III.—Richard C. Morse returned from the Amsterdam Conference in October, and immediately assumed the duties of General Secretary of this Committee. Every day justifies the action of the Lowell Convention, which authorized his employment. The mass of detail which the general work now involves,

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the extended correspondence, and the constant calls upon the Committee for some one to attend conventions, meetings for the formation of associations, anniversaries, and for general visitation, render the assistance of some one of liberal culture, and large knowledge of associations indispensable. It is not possible, in any report presented here, to set forth, in any intelligible manner, the particulars of our office work. It is daily increasing, and if the Associations continue to increase in numbers, efficiency and influence, as they have heretofore done—and there is no reason to suppose they will not—more assistance will be required.

Since October 1st, Mr. Morse has attended six State Conventions, viz.: Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont, Ohio, West Virginia and New Hampshire. He has visited thirty-four Associations.

IV.—Mr. Weidensall, the Agent of the Association at the West, began his work late in October. He was instructed first to visit the State of Illinois, which at that time had received no direct attention from this Committee. He found no State organization, and no means of communicating with the few societies then existing through any supervising agency. The whole aspect was uninviting. His labors for the year have been principally confined to this State, though he has visited Iowa, Wisconsin and Indiana. He has been most cordially received, and has rendered faithful and most useful service. He has traveled 6,043 miles, and, except in one instance, at reduced fares, granted by railroad officials. He has visited fifteen Christian Associations, seven of which were German; assisted in reorganizing two Associations, and by personal visitation or correspondence in the formation of thirty-seven new ones, not all however in Illinois. He has organized Young Men's Christian Associations in two educational institutions, and prepared the way, as is believed, for their formation in seven others. For the details of this work reference is made to his report.

V. In March last, after much discussion, the Committee reached the conclusion that the circulation of the *Monthly* did not compensate for its cost in labor and money. Devoted exclusively to the work of the Associations, it appealed, in fact, to a limited

number of readers, and its circulation could be increased only by the most strenuous and persistent efforts.

The views of the Committee as to the need of the *Monthly* in the management of the Association cause in their hands, were unchanged, but they felt justified in giving up the publication for the reasons already indicated. It was found that terms could be made with the *Illustrated Christian Weekly* for the publication of a considerable portion of our news, and occasional editorial discussions of our work.

Accordingly, an arrangement was made with the American Tract Society, under which (1) the *Monthly* ceased with the issue of the April number. (2.) The news of the Associations was to appear in the *Christian Weekly* to the extent of one and a half or two columns per week. (3.) The news to be prepared by a person selected by the Committee (Dr. Verranus Morse was chosen for this purpose), but at a compensation to be paid by the Tract Society. (4.) Occasional editorial articles were to appear, bearing directly on our work. (5.) A more decided effort was to be made to adapt the *Weekly* to young men as a class, while its admirable fitness for the family circle was to be maintained. (6.) All the unexpired subscriptions to the *Monthly* were to be met most liberally by the *Weekly*. (7) All outstanding advertisements were to be inserted in the *Weekly* without charge to the *Monthly*. (8.) All the assets of the *Monthly*, including the subscriptions already due, but then running, and all advertisements then running, were retained by the Committee. (9.) A liberal commission was allowed to the Committee and to the Associations for new subscribers and advertisements; and (10). The subscription list of the *Monthly* was handed to the *Weekly*.

The Committee is satisfied with the arrangement, as the best that could be made. The *Weekly* is more in accord with the Associations than any other paper of which the Committee has knowledge. Its circulation is large and is rapidly increasing, and it now carries our news and our discussions to more than ten times as many persons as the *Monthly* reached in its most prosperous days. The gentlemen immediately connected with

the *Weekly*, in its business management and its editorial staff, are heartily in sympathy with our work.

It is believed, therefore, that the Convention should sanction and endorse the action of the Committee, and that the Associations throughout the continent should do what in them lies to increase the circulation of the *Weekly*, not simply on account of its unquestioned general merits, but because in that way, more than in any other, they can accomplish the purposes of the Conventions in the establishment of the *Monthly*. The regular issue of the *Weekly* thus far has justified our expectations in the promises given to Association work.

VI.—The American Associations were represented at the World's Conference, at Amsterdam, in August last, by Moses W. Pond, Robert R. McBurney and Richard C. Morse. The sessions continued for five days. Delegates were present from England, Scotland, Ireland, Belgium, Holland, Prussia, France, Switzerland, and all the proceedings were characterized by the most fraternal spirit. Our own Delegates, as representatives of the American Associations, were never before brought so closely in contact with the Continental brethren, and never enjoyed such ample opportunities for studying the Associations abroad. On this occasion also a place in the conference was assigned to them in some measure corresponding with the relative importance and magnitude of the societies and interests which they were delegated to represent. The interest which the Associations on the two Continents feel in each other is steadily increasing, and the importance of our united work is more and more recognized. This form of Christian service will be the topic of a paper or address at the approaching meeting of the Evangelical Alliance in New York. Mr. M. H. Hodder, who is now well known here, is delegated to represent the British Associations at this Convention, and the Committee recommends that one of the evening sessions be set apart for the hearing of addresses from him and our Delegates at Amsterdam, in regard to Association work abroad.

VII.—The following is a summary of the Treasurer's Report:

VII

The Committee had on hand at the last Report.....	\$1,412 48
Subscriptions received at Lowell and paid.....	3,526 00
Previous Conventions.....	185 00
Sale of Annual Report of Lowell Convention.....	265 25
Sale of Annual Report of previous Convention.....	64 50
From sale of Life Membership Certificates.....	38 45
From sale of Songs of Devotion—two years.....	237 58
Sundries.....	167 40
Expended.....	<u>\$5,952 61</u>

Salary of Mr. Weidensall, \$147 25	}	.....	\$324 38 unp'd	\$727 75
Traveling expenses, 177 13				
\$ of this is last year's indebtedness.				
Salary of Mr. Morse, \$1,874.97	}	.....	2,141 13	
Traveling expenses, \$266.16				
Expenses of the <i>Monthly</i>			2,387 87 unp'd	96 80
Traveling expenses of persons attending Conven- tions at invitation of the Committee.....		107 00	"	140 50
Publishing Annual Report, &c.....		153 86	"	234 48
Printing, Postage and Stationery.....		570 00	"	46 25
Miscellaneous expenses.....		50 00		
Balance in hands of Committee, from which is to be deducted the expenses of the Convention.		218 38		
		<u>\$5,952 61</u>		<u>\$1,295 38</u>
Now due from subscriptions, \$2,585.00	}	.....	\$3,828.00	
Now due from Reports, \$248 00				

The Indianapolis Convention directed the Committee to prepare and issue a certificate of life membership. This was done at a cost of \$550, and one thousand copies were printed; about two hundred are still on hand. At the price fixed upon, a sale of two thousand would have reimbursed the Committee.

It will be observed from the foregoing statement that the Committee now owes \$1,295.38, while there are outstanding pledges of more than double that sum.

Ever since this Committee was appointed seven years ago, its work has been hampered by the failure of the Associations to respond promptly to their pledges. The signal failure after the Washington Convention in this regard almost wholly neutralized the efforts of the Committee in behalf of the *Monthly*. The present pledges should be promptly paid, and the Committee relieved of its obligations.

The subscriptions for the current year, in view of the need of increased effort, should not fall short of seven thousand dollars.

VIII.—A tabulated summary of the reports from the Associations forms a part of this report. The following are some of the prominent items :

1. Four hundred and thirty-nine Associations—a larger number by eighty than in any previous year have complied with the request of the Committee and forwarded reports to this Convention. Three hundred and eighteen reported at Lowell.

2. Three hundred and eighty-one report 63,790 members.

3. Two hundred and seventy-two report current expenses amounting in the aggregate to \$272,654.

4. There are now nine hundred and twenty-four on the roll, 80 more than one year ago ; 35 have disbanded ; 105 new societies have been organized.

5. Thirty-eight Associations have buildings ; last year there were twenty-seven. These buildings are valued at \$1,754,450.

6. Thirty-four have building funds amounting to \$432,937. The aggregate of buildings and building funds is 2,187,394, being an increase over last year of \$401,951.

7. We include in the above enumeration the buildings on the eve of dedication in Montreal and Charlottetown. Three Associations are now erecting buildings, viz. : Halifax, Baltimore and Philadelphia, which will be completed during the current year.

8. There are now thirty-two in colleges and literary institutions, an increase of six within the year. A large proportion of these were organized through the efforts of Mr. Weidensall.

IX.—The meeting of the General Secretaries in this City, just previous to our own gathering, is an onward step in our work. Two years ago, at Washington, there was a very brief conference of these officers ; there was another at Lowell, one year ago. Here some days have been spent in careful discussion of the special work of these officers. It is to be hoped that the results will be laid before this Convention in a form for consideration and action, for the General Secretaries are most important officers in our work ; they should act in harmony throughout the Continent, and in no independent spirit, but also in harmony with the purposes of the associated Societies. In short, the whole band of these societies, with their officers and working men, should move as one for the accomplishment of their sublime mis-

sion to the young men of the Continent—those young men especially who, as they enter our rooms, first grasp the hand of our General Secretary, and look to him, if he is equal to his work, for counsel and advice in all their affairs.

X.—The work of visitation, through the agency of single societies, or State organizations, demands discussion and enforcement in this Convention. In those States where it has received practical attention, the progress has been marked and permanent. There is no district in which it cannot be carried on, and all that is needed to secure it, is organization. One member of a State Executive Committee, a Christian layman, engaged in a large and pressing business, during his busiest season, last winter, devoted twenty days and evenings, to Association work in the State. What he has done others can do.

X.—The Committee recommends the following as matters upon which the Convention should take action :

1. The designation, as heretofore, of the second Sabbath in November next as a day of prayer for the blessing of God upon the work of the Associations throughout the world.

2. That a sum of not less than seven thousand dollars be raised for the prosecution of the general work for the coming year.

3. That the Committee be authorized to continue the employment of a General Secretary, and such other agents as the money in its hands may warrant, for the prosecution of its work.

4. That the Corresponding Members of the Committee be peremptorily instructed to call a Convention of the Societies on their field, during the year, in all cases where provision is not made for one by some other local authority.

5. That the circulation of *The Illustrated Christian Weekly* be commended to the Associations as the best means now at hand for the circulation of the news relating to Association work.

6. That the preparation of *The Association Manual* be recommended to the Executive Committee. [In regard to this, it is proper to say that the Committee has not felt that our work was

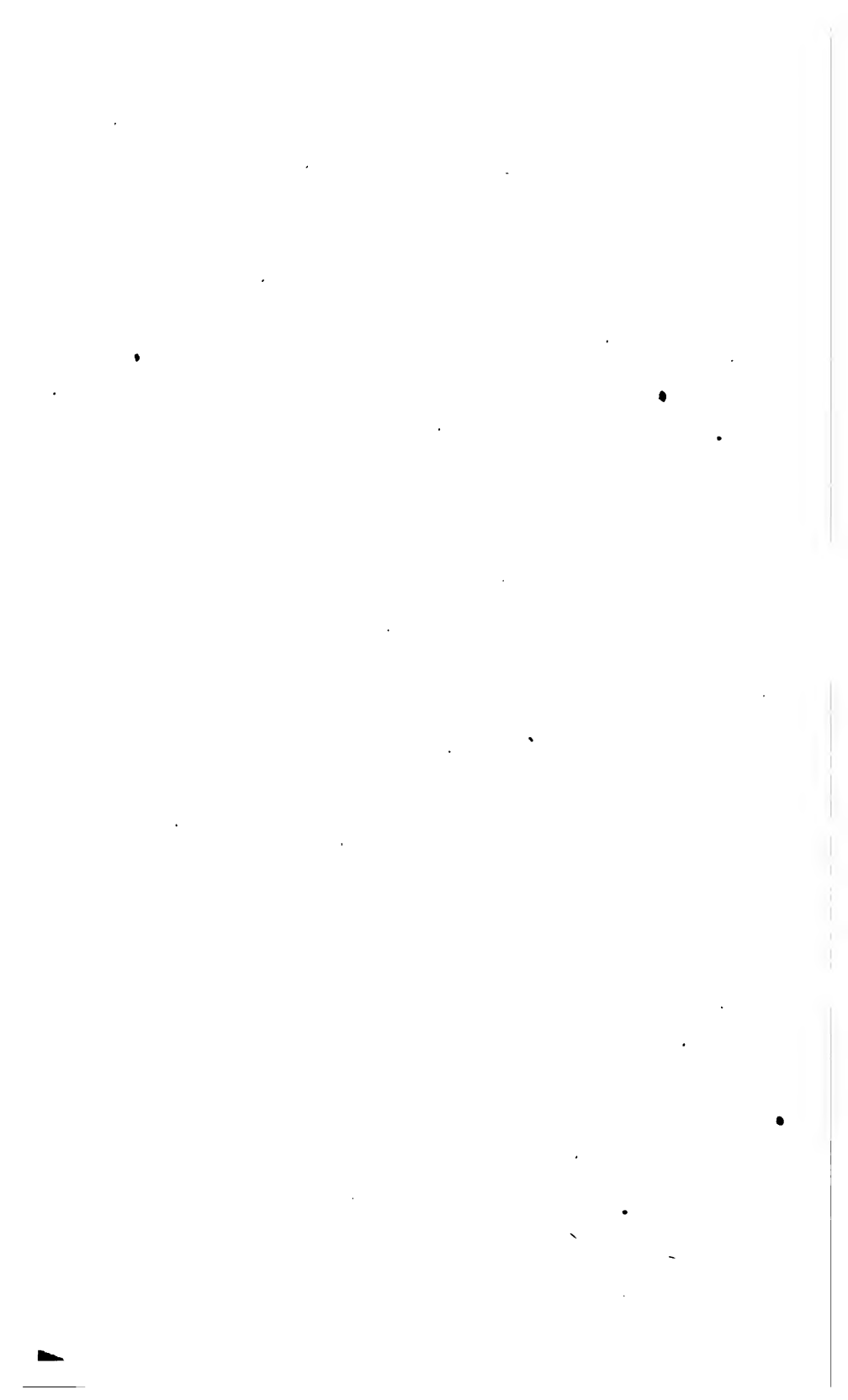
yet sufficiently matured to justify the publication of such a document.]

7. That an emphatic deliverance be made by the Convention in favor of visitation between the Associations, as an important agency for the encouragement of workers and the strengthening of the Societies.

XL—It has been said in some quarters that the Associations were losing ground and power. This is wholly a mistake. The actual facts furnish no foundation for the assertion. The reverse is true. It cannot, of course, be disputed that some Associations have been disbanded during the year; but others have been organized, and there is an actual increase in the number. There was a period of very rapid growth. It began with the Albany Convention and continued till that at Portland. Then there was a more exact definition of our work, and a much slower increase in numbers. From that time the growth has been steady and continuous. Libraries have increased in numbers and in size; the roll of membership has lengthened; there has been less complaint that treasuries were empty; buildings have been multiplied, with less incumbrance of debt; building funds have grown; our secular agencies have become more powerful, as they have been arranged with better system; employment is more readily furnished; our religious services have been more and more blessed to young men by the Master whom we follow; our outdoor services, conducted by laymen, have become an institution of acknowledged usefulness in the work of the Church universal. The almost unknown young men, who seven or eight years ago were foremost in our work, have come more and more to the front in all the employments which go to make up national industry and life; and their added wealth, and influence and power are, as heretofore, ours. No! a backward step has not been taken! The future is rich in promise to us and to our associates, upon the one single condition—that we be faithful to our Elder Brother. With added emphasis we repeat, “The Association cause was never so strong on this Continent as it is to-day. It never commanded so much money; never had so strong a hold as now upon public sympathy; never have Association men seen

so clearly as now, that it is their overshadowing duty in these Societies, to labor primarily, chiefly, always for the salvation of young men; and never has the Great Head of the Church more richly blessed their efforts than in the year now closed."

CEPHAS BRAINERD,	} <i>Executive Committee.</i>
JAMES STOKES, JR.,	
ROBERT R. MCBURNEY,	
EDGAR A. HUTCHINS,	
BENJ. C. WETMORE,	
VERRANUS MORSE, M. D.	



REPORT OF RICHARD C. MORSE.

Early in October, 1872, I accepted the invitation and appointment of the Executive Committee to act as their General Secretary. During the past nine months, in discharging the duties of this new office, created by vote of the last convention, (Lowell, Mass., June 14, 1872,) the following work has been performed under the direction of the Committee:

The winter months were chiefly occupied with the office work, including correspondence with the Associations which during the six years of the Committee's service had been till then, at great expense of time and effort, carried on by the Chairman, Mr. Brainerd. In connection with replies to letters, the documents published by the Committee have been instructively circulated among Associations just organizing, and wherever a better understanding of the nature, scope and agencies of our work seemed to be called for.

An extensive correspondence also resulted from the vote at Lowell, which conditionally selected San Francisco as the place of meeting for this Convention. Many letters of inquiry and consultation were exchanged with the railroad companies and influential friends of the cause, as well as with brethren in all parts of the Continent. The result was unfavorable to the project, and was duly announced in the circular calling the Convention to meet in the City of Poughkeepsie.

As opportunity presented and the office work of the Committee allowed, a visitation, reaching the following forty Associations in nine States and Provinces, has been undertaken:

Waterbury, Conn.	Oct. 9-10	Owego, N. Y.	Mar. 20
Fall River, Mass.	" 23-24	Cortland, "	" 21
Springfield, Vt.	Nov. 6-7	Cornell Univer., Ithaca, N. Y..	" 22
Toledo, O.	" 15-17	Moravia, N. Y.	" 23
Parkersburg, W. Va.	" 22-24	Auburn, "	" 24
Manchester, N. H.	May 5-6	Ithaca, "	" 25
		Rochester University, N. Y. ...	" 26
Bellevue, O.	Nov. 18	Greenpoint, N. Y.	April 2
Cleveland, O.	" 19	Peekskill, "	" 14
Akron, O.	" 19	Utica, "	" 16
Granville, O.	" 20	Rome, "	April 19-20
Clarksburg, W. Va.	" 25	Syracuse, "	" 21
Lancaster, Pa.	Feb. 3	Amsterdam, "	" 23
Waynesboro, Pa.	" 4-5	Albany, "	" 24
Greencastle, Pa.	" 6	Fulton, "	May 2
Newville, Pa.	" 6	Little Falls, "	" 3-5
Nyack, N. Y.	" 14	St. Johns, N. B.	May 27-28
Binghamton, N. Y.	Mar. 17	Madison, N. J.	June 2
Unadilla, "	" 18	Walden, N. Y.	" 8
Norwich, "	" 19	New Utrecht, N. Y.	" 12
		Mount Kisco, N. Y.	June 14-15

At the six places first named in the above list, State Conventions were attended.

Of the Connecticut Associations, eighteen were represented at Waterbury by about one hundred delegates. The State Secretary, Mr. C. M. Wilcox, reported a canvass reaching fifty-five different places. The brethren were so encouraged that they voted \$500 to continue this work the ensuing year.

At Fall River, Mass., yet greater enthusiasm was manifested. Thirty-five Associations were represented by one hundred and seven delegates. After

stirring reports, the State Committee received pledges for \$750, to defray the expenses of their next canvass.

In Vermont, the Convention at Springfield (a point remote from the railroad) was small in numbers (twenty-five delegates from fourteen Associations with thirty-five corresponding members) owing to the distemper then prevailing among the horses of that region. The State Committee reported a visitation of the Associations, undertaken in the heat both of summer and the political campaign. The result was disheartening. It was, as far as I am aware, the first and only instance in which a visitation of this sort has been attempted in any State by our societies, and has failed to commend itself to the next Convention.

In New Hampshire the very opposite impression was created. Fifty delegates from fifteen Associations and seventy corresponding members assembled in Manchester. It had been a year of discouragement in the State, so that the usual period for calling the Convention in the autumn had passed without any meeting. A revival of interest, however, appeared among the delegates. Members of the Massachusetts Committee told of the Lord's blessing upon the recent canvass in their own State, and with unprecedented enthusiasm \$1,000 was raised to defray the expense of a similar tour in New Hampshire.

A genuine religious interest pervaded alike all the sessions of these four New England Conventions. In the first two and the last more emphasis was laid on Associational discussion of the work and of the agencies employed in the several Societies, and the delegates separated with a zeal for specific work, the nature and methods of which had been pointed out.

Another feature common to these Conventions was an unusually hearty endorsement, by the ministers present, of the Association and its work. This was mingled with allusion by them to a doubt and hesitation in the past which had now wholly disappeared. Indeed, it seemed to them matter for wonderment that it had ever existed. To one visiting in turn these different Conventions, it appeared not a little singular that this sentiment, in terms almost identically the same, should be iterated and reiterated in places so far removed from one another and by ministerial brethren who had had no opportunity of hearing each other's words.

It is deeply to be regretted that not a single Association in Connecticut, Vermont, or Maine has yet secured a General Secretary, to devote his time and energies chiefly to the work of these societies. Such an officer in any one of the larger cities would be a blessing to the cause, not only in his own community but throughout the State.

The Second Convention of the West Virginia Associations met in Parkersburg, and consisted of twenty delegates from four societies. The State Secretary and State Committee were absent, being unavoidably detained at the last minute, but quiet, instructive sessions were held. The Associations in this part of the country are yet in their infancy but give promise of growth in numbers and influence.

The Ohio Convention, with 100 delegates from twenty-one Associations, stirred the City of Toledo by its enthusiastic meetings. Vigorous activity in the larger and smaller towns was reported. The news of the blessed work among the railroad men in Cleveland, which had been extended along the iron tracks to a score of places in the neighborhood, kindled a flame of emulation among the brethren. The discussions were prayerful and practical, and the delegates separated instructed as well as stimulated for their work at home. The deep popular impression made by this—as well as by all preceding Ohio

Conventions—in the place of meeting, aids powerfully the good influence of these assemblies. This is so strongly pronounced, that each year many Associations in that State are eager to entertain the next Convention. No less than six competing invitations were promptly and urgently extended at Toledo. What largely contributes to this wide popularity of the Convention, is the circumstance that in Ohio the time of meeting is located at the end of the week, so that most of the delegates remain over Sunday in the place of meeting, occupy many of the pulpits and are heard in all the Sunday Schools if not also on the streets during the day, so that in the evening the largest hall of the town or city is crowded to hear the brethren bid impressive farewell to one another and the Christian people among whom they have met. It invariably proves a day of blessing to the entire community. I hope the time may soon come when our State Conventions will in this matter imitate the example of the brethren in Ohio and in the Maritime Provinces, where the experiment of years has shown the wisdom of copying in every State and Province this Sabbath feature of our International Convention.

Of the remaining thirty Associations visited, most were in the State of New York. The tour among them was made partly in company with the chairman of the State Executive Committee, Mr. Erskine Uhl, and under direction of that Committee. Several societies in Pennsylvania were also visited with Rev. S. A. Taggart, the Association Secretary of that State.

Five on the list, viz., those in Greencastle, Pa., Madison, N. J., Nyack, Undilla, and Moravia, N. Y., were in the act of organizing, and welcomed heartily words of suggestion and encouragement.

One of the Associations visited, that in St. John, N. B., was in the act of dedicating a beautiful building, erected at a cost of \$35,000. It is one of the finest architectural ornaments in the city, and gives our active and energetic brethren there admirable opportunity to largely extend their work.

Two, at Binghamton and Owego, N. Y., had suspended work, but with hope and intention of renewing their activity. At several points the society was feeble and needed the impulse that so often comes from fraternal sympathy and counsel.

It was cheering to notice that in all places alike there seemed to be less disposition than usual to question the utility of the organization. Difficulties—and there were always some—were referred to local causes. Desire, effort and prayer were directed to the overcoming of these, under the conviction that just such social and religious work for young men as the Association contemplated was urgently needed. This was accompanied by a spirit of inquiry as to the best methods of Association work, and the experience of other societies. Such inquiry can be gratified only by a more extended visitation and by more frequent intercourse among the brethren engaged in common effort for the best welfare of young men.

REPORT OF MR. ROBERT WEIDENSALL.

I began the work of last year in October. The field assigned me was Illinois. I have traveled 6,043 miles, stopped in 54 cities and towns, and visited 7 male Associations, 1 female Association, and 7 German Yünglings Vereins. I have reorganized 2 Associations that were working at a disadvantage, and have assisted in starting 37 new organizations. Many of these are in other States, and the aid rendered them was through letter correspondence.

On my way to Illinois I visited the Davenport, Iowa, Association. They had just changed their rooms and were preparing for a more vigorous prosecution of their work. I met their officers and the young man whom they had engaged as superintendent. Our interview was pleasant and profitable. I urged them to take the Association MONTHLY and study it with care. This advice I have given to all, until the MONTHLY was merged into the *Illustrated Christian Weekly*. Since that time I have encouraged the circulation of that paper among our Association members. At Moline, Illinois, I attended a meeting appointed to consider the propriety of organizing a Scandinavian Association. I addressed them and answered many questions relative to Association work. Temporary officers were then chosen and a committee appointed to draw up papers for permanent organization. In every thing it promises success. A large field of labor surrounds it.

To ascertain the exact condition of the Associations in the State, there was no alternative but to visit the most prominent towns and cities. Accordingly I went to Chicago, Aurora, Rockford, Freeport, Galesburg, Springfield, Quincy, Decatur, Bloomington, Peoria, Ottawa and Joliet, Ill., and Burlington, Iowa. In all these places Associations had existed and had accomplished a good work, and in almost every case some organized results remained to witness the beneficent work that these Associations had performed. Although the memory of them was dear, yet there was no disposition on the part of the Christian people to re-organize. Chicago and Aurora were the only large places where there were Associations. The Chicago Association maintains a free reading room, a good daily prayer meeting, and a lecture course; is doing a good work in railroad depots and passenger cars, and has two papers of large circulation, published under its name.

Aurora has a good reading room, maintains a daily prayer meeting, sustains a mission school for neglected children, and does some relief work. But neither of these Associations reach the young men as they desire to do.

In the course of my visit to the larger towns and cities, already specified, I occasionally stopped in other places. In Batavia, a town of scarcely 1,500 inhabitants, I found an Association with some excellent workers in it. They have a fine room and hold some very interesting meetings. They look forward with bright hopes to the possession of a building of their own at no very distant day. At Elgin, on the Rock River, where the National Watch Company have their manufactory, I found an Association in moribund condition. I called upon its President, who was a persevering man; but for him it would have died long ago. I met the principal members in the business and prayer meetings of the Association, and the Lord enabled me to propose a plan by which they could go to work again with a hope of success. A round sum of money was secured, and the way appeared quite clear. The last account I had from it was that it was doing well.

At Dixon there were warm-hearted advocates of the Association. I canvassed the matter of organization with those who were most interested in the salvation of young men. There seemed to be but one desire; that was to have an Association. The only question was, can it be sustained? In a meeting called for the purpose, it was determined to enter into an organization at once. It was concluded that the best way to answer the question was to make the trial.

While I could do nothing with the dead American Association in Galesburg, I succeeded in effecting an organization among the Scandinavian Christians of that City. I addressed a very large meeting of that nationality. They listened with great attention, and immediately proposed to form an Association.

In Carthage College I met a band of religious students, and showed them the importance and usefulness of our Association in educational institutions.

They at once promised me to organize as soon as possible. I gave them all needed information and necessary papers, and left the matter in their hands.

While I was in Bloomington, I saw no favorable opportunity to reorganize the old Association, nor to form a new one, yet I gained an audience with the Christian students of the Wesleyan University located there. After a satisfactory explanation, they resolved themselves into an Association, and have since made steady advancement. I visited the Association in the State Normal University, several miles from Bloomington. Found there a company of most worthy young men. Inexperienced in Association matters they, held their business meetings immediately after the devotional services.

All the business was thus done in a most public way. It not only occasioned delay, but robbed the devotional meetings of their beneficial results. I advised them to put the bulk of their business into the hands of a Board of Directors. This idea pleased them very much, and the proposition was at once made to amend the Constitution in that particular. Many conversions took place in the meetings of these two University Associations. They both afterward enjoyed the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the great revival led by Mr. Hammond, in Bloomington, last winter.

Up to the holidays, I made my headquarters in Aurora. Afterwards I went to Chicago to look at the field from that stand-point. I spent about a week there. During that time I answered several earnest appeals for the necessary information to organize Associations in distant localities. In my answers to these requests, I was very careful to give the best advice, and to guard them from every possible mistake. I then determined to make another trip through the State, and not to pass by any of the smaller towns that might afford an opportunity to form an Association. In this trip I was quite successful. But the Lord had prepared the way for me. From the beginning of the week of prayer there was a manifest change in the religious condition of the Christian people of Illinois. All seemed to be praying and hoping for an outpouring of God's spirit.

At Morris, Lexington, Champaign, Charleston and Dupage township, Will Co., where there had been protracted religious services, and souls gathered into the Church, I started general Associations. At Urbana an Association was formed in the Baptist Church, and at Plainfield in the Methodist Church. The membership of both these Associations is open to all evangelical Christians. The latter one is in a small country town, and has been doing a good work in holding district prayer-meetings in the country to accommodate all the young people.

In the Illinois Industrial University, I organized two very promising Associations, one among the young men, and one among the young ladies. There are about 400 or 500 students in attendance at this school; about the same number as at the State Normal University. Nothing gives me greater pleasure than to institute an organized religious work in the State schools of our county. I think it is the peculiar province of our Association. In the Northwestern College at Naperville, the Christian students had been anxious to systematize their religious work more, and the Association seemed to be the very thing they wanted. Hence they entered into it with heart and hand. I returned to Chicago after a trip of three months, and spent more than a month in the city. During this time letters came in from every quarter, where the Lord had blessed the people, asking for sample Constitutions and instructions in regard to the formation of Young Men's Christian Associations. These I answered, as I have already said, with the greatest care. Some of the larger places, where I could do nothing in the way of forming Associations when I visited them, on account of a want of religious interest, are now on the list of those towns which have made application for the necessary instruction to organize Associations. Such is the change which the Spirit of God makes in his people when they draw nigh to him. The following are the places which I addressed by letter: Butler, Bloomington, Mason City, Rock Falls, Clinton and Rockford, Ill.; Camanche, Eddyville, Burlington and Pella, Iowa; Prescott and Fort Howard, Wis.; Greensburg Ind.; Elmore, Ohio; Owatonna, Minn.; Charlotte, Mich., and Knoxville, Tenn.

In Chicago I aided three Scandinavian Churches to organize within themselves Associations. One of these Associations was begun last fall. It made rapid progress in every respect. It now numbers more, perhaps, than any Young Men's Christian Association in the city. It has a commodious and convenient room in the church building. It has a library of 300 volumes of select Scandinavian literature. It has tables with papers and periodicals, among which was the Association MONTHLY, and it has a good cabinet organ. In the English meetings the Association has been addressed by some of the first men of the city. All their general work of whatever character, is put into the hands of committees after the manner of our American Societies. It has also an Immigrant Committee of six members, one of whom is called agent, who assists in every possible way their countrymen coming from the Fatherland without knowledge of American customs, or in destitute circumstances. There are two general meetings a week—on Monday evening in the English, and on Friday evening in the Scandinavian language. The library and reading-room are kept open every night except Sunday.

The second Association was organized this Spring. It has a large membership and is preparing to do a considerable work outside of the mutual improvement of its members. The congregation with which this Association is identified, have just completed their new church on the site of the one destroyed by the great fire. In the design of this building a large and convenient room was set apart for the especial use of such an organization. The Association has some very excellent material. They speak English fluently, and many of their exercises are in the English language. There is certainly a fair prospect ahead. The third Association was organized yet more recently, and holds its meetings in the Church School House. It has from 15 to 20 members. It is in a newer portion of the city, and its members have not been so long in this country. Hence they cannot speak the English as well as the others. This

Association has a good field of work ; it is surrounded with a multitude of Scandinavians. One reason why I have dwelt so long upon these Scandinavian Associations, is because they as a people enter into our American customs more readily than any other foreigners of a different language, and also because the field of labor among their countrymen is so great.

I also visited six large German Churches in Chicago, which have associated with Yüngling-Vereins. These vereins are made up of boys and unmarried men from 14 years and upward, and number severally from 20 to 40 members. The purpose of these organizations is to mutually benefit their members, and to keep them from running into vice. The members are all pledged against attending any place of dissipation. The first violation of this agreement calls forth the censure of the Association. If persisted in, suspension or expulsion follows. Each of these Associations has or proposes to have a library. Much time is taken up in singing. The minister always meets with them and takes up considerable time in the regular meetings. They do not meet often enough, only once a month, except for singing. Each of them holds an Anniversary Meeting at such times that the members of the other Vereins can attend. If these Associations were conducted as they should be, they could do more good proportionally than the American. The location of these churches have been so wisely considered as to accommodate the largest German populations. They have from one to three large schoolhouses belonging to each church, in either of which a room could be obtained for the use of such an organization, without cost, only for fuel. Nor do I think that they would be adverse to making these organizations more effective in reaching young men, if approached in a proper manner.

I went to Evanston, a suburban town, the seat of the North Western University, on Lake Michigan, to attend a meeting called to organize a Young Men's Christian Association. There was considerable debating about the qualifications for active membership and about the name of the organization. They adopted the Evangelical test, but refused to call it the Y. M. C. A. I told them that the name was a secondary matter, if they only adopted the purpose of our Association, which was to save young men.

After I returned to the City I made a trip through Iowa. Had a consultation with the Managers of the Council Bluff Association. They were doing a good and extensive work. I gave them some practical hints which were very kindly received, and told them to send delegates to the International Convention ; but they doubted their ability to do so, yet they promised to send a complete report of their doings to the Executive Committee.

At Maquoketa, Iowa, a railroad town of 2,500 inhabitants, I organized a new Association. Although they began with a fair number of members, they preferred an entirely Christian institution to a popular organization. Hence they only provided for active members, and they must be evangelical Christians. They did this for their own highest welfare, as well as to secure the most effectual means to save young men. Success must crown such a purpose.

On my way back to Chicago I attended a quarterly meeting of a Christian Association in Sterling, Ill. The object of this Association is almost the same as that of a Y. M. C. A., but more general in its character. The establishment of a reading-room was under discussion, and, by request, I told them what I believed to be the easiest method to raise the necessary funds to defray all expenses, and the best way to keep the room after it was established. I also spoke at some length on the Sabbath School work, which had previously engaged the attention of the meeting.

To recapitulate. I have visited seven male Associations: one in Chicago, Aurora, Batavia, Elgin, Pontiac, Normal University, at Normal, Ill., and Davenport, Iowa; and I may add, Council Bluff, Iowa, and Omaha, Neb.; one female Association, in Normal University; six *yünglings vereins*, in German churches in Chicago; and one in a German church at Bloomington, Ill.

I helped to re-organize three Associations: one at Elgin, one in the Normal University, and one at Logansport, Ind.

I prepared the way to organize five Associations in educational institutions: one in Carthage College, Carthage; one in Northwestern College, Naperville; one in Wesleyan University, Bloomington; and two in the State Industrial University, at Champaign.

I effected six organizations in individual churches, as follows: one in the Baptist Church, at Urbana; one in the Methodist Church, at Plainfield; one in the Swedish Lutheran Church, at Moline; and three in Scandinavian Churches in Chicago.

I assisted in the formation of ten general Associations at Dixon, Galesburg (Scandinavian), Morris, Lexington, Champaign, Charleston, Dupage township, Will Co.; and Evanston, Ill., and at Maquoketa, Iowa. And I aided by correspondence, sixteen: at Butler, Bloomington, Mason City, Rock Falls, Clinton and Rockford, Ill.; Camanche, Eddyville, Burlington and Pella, Iowa; Prescott and Fort Howard, Wis.; Greensburg, Ind.; Elmore, Ohio; Owatonna, Minn.; and Knoxville, Tenn.

I have been kindly treated by the good people of Illinois. All but one of the railroads gave me reduced fare when I applied to the proper authorities. I received letters of introduction from D. L. Moody, of Chicago, and D. J. Pike, of Aurora.

May the Lord, whom we love and in whose service we labor, make use of these organized instrumentalities to extend His kingdom among young men.

THE BRITISH PROVINCES.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

The Associations now existing in New Brunswick are: St. John, Fredericton, St. Stephen, St. Andrews, Central Norton, Upper Norton, Chatham, Newcastle, Bathurst, Richibucto, Dalhousie, Campbelltown and Woodstock.

The two latter have been organized during the year, and the letters of the Secretaries to me indicate a good degree of earnestness in the work.

The other Associations, as far as I can learn, keep up the usual prayer meetings and literary exercises. A few have lectures in the winter.

In St. John the members have been, to a great extent, absorbed by the cares incident to the erection and completion of their new building, which was formally opened on the 27th of May. It has perhaps a finer front than any other building in the city, and we have found it very well adapted for the purposes of the Association. At our dedication service, which was well attended and successful, we had the pleasure of meeting the General Secretary and representative of your Committee. The meetings of the Association for prayer and other pur-

poses have been well and regularly carried on, as also visitation of the sick and mission meetings. We hope to be able, in our new building, to prosecute the work more vigorously and successfully.

JOSHUA CLAWSON, *Cor. Member.*

NOVA SCOTIA.

The Associations in the Maritime Provinces held their Sixth Annual Convention in Halifax in September last. Associations from all parts of the Province, Prince Edward's Island and New Brunswick were represented.

At first considerable disappointment was felt at not receiving the long-promised visit from some of the leading brethren in the United States. But early in the sessions of the Convention the members began to feel that they had the presence of the Holy Spirit, and whatever the seeming loss might have been, it was amply made up with abundant blessings from His presence. The utmost harmony prevailed, and we expect lasting good resulted from the conference. The delegates returned to their several places animated with new energy, which was transmitted to the several Associations with which they were connected.

The call for united prayer, on the second Lord's day in November, for young men and for the Associations, was very generally responded to throughout the Province, and in many places sermons suitable to the day were preached by the ministers in the several localities.

Efforts are being vigorously made to erect buildings in several localities, viz., Halifax, Pictou, Truro, Yarmouth, Amherst and some other places. These are more particularly named in the tabulated returns made by the Associations. The Halifax building, it is expected, will be partially occupied on the first of October, and when finished will be one of the finest structures in the city. It will cost about fifteen thousand dollars, a considerable portion of which is already subscribed.

The Associations in the Maritime Provinces intend holding the Seventh Annual Convention in Truro during the first week in September.

JAMES FARQUHAR, *Cor. Member.*

ONTARIO.

I am thankful to report the following summary of the labors and correspondence of this Committee during the past year. Thirty (30) Y. M. C. Associations are known to be *working* in the Province of Ontario at this date, being an increase of nine (9) over last year; *those only* are included which have either been personally visited, or with which we have been in full correspondence. Six (6) entirely new fields have been planted with the Association standard, and the work has been started anew in three (3) other localities where it had not previously been successful. One of these latter places is the City of Lowdon, of which I reported last year, "no hope of a *present* revival of the work." Thus God has chided our weak faith, and as regards the past history of the cause in that City, "All old things have become new." One of the most cheering features of our work has been the fact everywhere apparent, that members removing from "live Associations" carry with them the desire to labor for the Master in the Y. M. C. A. field, and rest not till the good cause is established in their new home, or till fresh fire has been infused into existing organizations

with which they connect themselves. I last year reported as the result of investigation, that not less than ten (10) Y. M. C. Associations had died out in previous years for want of friendly supervision or encouragement, either from neighboring Associations or from an Executive Committee, and I am thankful now to state that no such ground of discouragement has been met with during the past year. Deeply impressed with the absolute necessity of our organized scheme of fraternal visitation, this Committee feel that they have hitherto depended too much upon the valuable aid of brethren from a distance, whose occasional welcome visits have caused a spasmodic stirring among the "dry bones," and whose departure has as often been followed by a relapse into former inactivity. Convinced that this is *our own work*, we have practically carried out this idea with good results, not only to the Associations that have been visited and encouraged, but also to the visiting delegates, and to the Associations they represent. Eight (8) members of this Executive have paid twenty-eight (28) visits to eighteen (18) different localities, in which public meetings have been held wherever it was practicable, with many private conferences between the delegates and the business men of the various places, in order to enlist their active interest. Some of these meetings have been attended by *every clergyman in the place*, and it has been our first invariable rule to counsel the brethren to guard against the least interference with "Church work," or the withdrawal of a single member from any department of congregational effort in which he is engaged, thus commending our work to the ministers and their best members, without whose cordial sympathy the failure of a new Association is almost certain. In addition to such personal invitation as we have been enabled to make, a vigorous correspondence has been maintained, with abundant interchange of good counsel, earnest encouragement, and hearty fraternal greetings, to the mutual edification of all, and to the strengthening of the cause so dear to our hearts. Other visits have been paid by members outside the Executive Committee, and all our active members who are engaged as commercial travelers, have been urged to combine the claims of Y. M. C. A. work with those of business duty, and wherever possible to visit Associations *on their night of regular meeting*, as such an unexpected visit may after be productive of as much benefit as the more formal advent of our expected delegation. Looking forward with anticipation to the pleasure and profit of our coming International gathering, and praying that it may be a season of repenting to the cause,

GEORGE A. YOUNG, *Cor. Member.*

LIST OF ASSOCIATIONS KNOWN TO EXIST IN ACTUAL WORKING ORDER IN
THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO AT THIS DATE (JUNE 7, 1873).

N.B.—Those marked * have been established during the past year. All of these Associations are founded upon the strict Evangelical basis adopted by the Portland Convention, but several have not yet put their Constitution in print.

Barrie.—Reported dead last year; reorganized by Executive Committee.

Brantford.—President, Wm. Wilkinson; Secretary, D. R. Blackades; 112 members. Full details will likely be sent direct.

Brockville.—Will likely report direct. Has not sent particulars to Ontario Executive.

Belleville.—Pres., W. N. Van Tassel; Sec., T. J. Shanks; 126 members. Has not sent particulars to Ontario Executive.

Berlin.—See report of last year. Great interest shown at last annual meeting. A German town.

Bowmansville.—Will doubtless report direct. Has been visited by Ontario delegates.

Craigvale.—Organized a year ago. No details received by Ontario Executive.

Coburg.—Pres., A. Laws; Sec., R. Crawford; 75 members. Work reviving here.

Fergus.—Pres., W. Rennie; Sec., W. Smellie; 40 members. Lately admitted lady honorary members.

Guelph.—Pres., D. Maguire, M.D.; Gen. Sec., S. S. Bates; 202 members. The services of a paid Secretary lately engaged.

Galt.—Pres., Charles Woods; Sec., D. McR. Kay; 45 members. Has been visited by Ontario Delegates.

Hamilton.—Pres., A. Macallum, M.A.; Gen. Sec., D. A. Sinclair; 200 members. Hope to begin a building next year.

Ingersoll.—Pres., D. H. Flook; Sec., A. S. Murray; 45 members. Since the fire, last year, has begun with new life.

Kincardine.—Pres., D. Cameron; Sec., A. Andrews; 50 members. All the clergymen in hearty accord with this young Association.

**Lindsay*.—Organized 3d April, 1873. Hope to report favorably next year.

Lowdon.—Pres., Thos. Mesir; Sec., J. C. Robinson; 50 members. Just started under favorable auspices. In good hands.

Millbrook.—Organized this year. Sec., A. Wood. No details yet forwarded to Executive.

Napanee.—Will report direct. Some earnest workers in this Association.

Ottawa.—Will report direct. Progressing favorably.

Owen Sound.—Will report direct. No details forwarded to Ontario Executive.

Oakville.—Organization reported last year. No details forwarded to Ontario Executive.

Orillia.—Pres., W. H. Leef; Sec., C. Davies; 42 members. An apparent desire for active work.

Paris.—Pres., W. E. Adams; Sec., John Brodie; 65 members. Raising a building fund.

Port Hope.—Pres., Wm. Craig, Jr.; Gen. Sec., Robert Gray; 150 members. Delegates report favorably of last visit.

**Paisley*.—Just organized; 30 members. Hope to send a good report next year.

St. Catharines.—Will doubtless report direct. Some earnest men working faithfully here.

St. Thomas.—Pres., J. B. Tweedale, M.D.; Sec., G. Franklin; 80 members. Formed by correspondence with Ontario Executive and since visited.

Toronto.—Will report direct. Shaftesbury Hall dedicated this year.

Woodstock.—Pres., Wm. Edwards; Sec., Thos. McCall. Progressing favorably.

**Walkerton*.—Pres., J. Royerson. A new and promising Association. Hopes to do much good.

THE UNITED STATES.

ALABAMA.

The following is a list of Associations organized in this State, of which I have any knowledge:

Selma,	Montgomery,	Marion,	Tuscaloosa,
Huntsville,	Columbiana,	Opelika,	White Plains,
Union Springs,	Jacksonville,	Birmingham,	Gadsden.
Uniontown.			

Two, Selma and Huntsville, are mentioned in the Lowell proceedings.

The work in this State I feel is progressing. Two years ago but very few knew anything of Association work; but through the two Conventions that have been held, and by correspondence, visitations, and printed matter, the knowledge with regard to the work has been disseminated, and there is a demand for organizations all over the State. I hope by our next State meeting to have double the number now organized. There are but few large towns in the State, but we find work for the members even in the smallest places.

H. L. McKEE, *Cor. Member.*

CONNECTICUT.

In giving this report I confess to a degree of disappointment in matters relating to the Associational interests of this State, not because I see less of God's spirit in the work itself, but from the fact that the plans for more efficient State work, referred to in my last report, seemed from force of circumstances to come to a "dead lock" at our last Convention, Oct., 1872. Since that time our State Executive Committee have hesitated to assume such responsibility in entering on new work as seemed to belong only to the Convention. So that what progress has been made in this department of Christian activity is due to individual Associations alone. We are glad to know that many societies have manifested a zeal worthy of the cause, not only within their own limits, but in concert with others in district meetings and otherwise.

I cherish the belief that the Young Men's Christian Association will ere long be recognized in every community as the instrumentality thoroughly adapted to be the bond of unity among all evangelical Christians, by which humanity, Christianity, and the onward progress of society generally will be greatly promoted. To this end we labor and pray, trusting that "The earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea." And it shall be said in the language of inspiration: "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth."

NEWTON FULLER, *Cor. Member.*

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

In the Washington Association the past year there have been one hundred and twenty-six hopeful conversions, the greater portion of which are the fruits of the daily prayer meetings and open-air services. The attendance upon all the religious services has been larger than in any previous year. At the daily

prayer meetings alone, more than forty thousand persons have attended ; and the influence thus exerted beyond the actual conversions, cannot be estimated. Sabbath evening services continued through the summer in Lincoln Hall, were, after evening service had been resumed in the churches, transferred to the Theatre Comique. The meetings there have been continued to the present time, with good results.

Early in the autumn a class of over two hundred young men and women was organized, to receive such instructions as would enable them to work more systematically and efficiently in the Master's vineyard. Between fifty and sixty lectures were given by eminent clergymen and laymen of our own and other cities, many of which were attended by hundreds of persons outside the class.

Open-air services were held during the warm season, each evening and on Sabbath afternoon. A company of the younger portion of our members have organized what they term a Youth's Working Committee, and hold under their direction quite a number of neighborhood prayer meetings in various parts of the city. These have led some to the Saviour.

The services at the Jail, Alms-house, Work-house, Reform School, Kendall Chapel, and the Women's Christian Association, have continued through the year without interruption. Meetings have also been commenced at Fort Whipple, Arlington, Georgetown Work-house, and Marine Barracks, in all of which the labors of our brethren have borne good fruit.

Daily prayer meetings at our rooms at 12.15, 6, and 9 P. M., have been held with increasing attendance and interest. Visitation of the sick has not been neglected. A Sabbath morning lunch has been furnished at the rooms, during a portion of the year, to station-house lodgers, and a lunch in the evening to members too far from home to return for evening services.

The Church Committee, in connection with a number of other Association members, have responded to all invitations given, with few exceptions, to attend devotional meetings in the churches.

Of the Mission Schools of the Association, one known as the White Canal Mission, turned over to the New York Avenue Church, is about to occupy a neat, commodious chapel, which is being erected for it. The other, known as the Colored Canal Mission, has removed to the beautiful Sabbath School room of the Congregational Church. The school has had a prosperous year, with an average attendance of 150 or 160 scholars.

The Entertainment Committee gave, during the winter, one grand reception, for which the entire building was thrown open. Music was furnished by the Philharmonic Society, and refreshments provided. About 1,500 tickets were issued at a small charge to defray the expenses. Another entertainment was given in April, in which tableaux of Oriental scenes illustrating the current Sunday School lessons on the history of Joseph were the principal feature. Parlor socials have been held at intervals of two or three weeks, and have been largely attended.

This association has recently, with subscriptions amounting to \$1,000, purchased a controlling interest in the Washington Library Company. The money so invested, in connection with exchanges with the Library of Congress, will enable the Library Company to add immediately to their collection two or three thousand new books. The General Secretary has acted, without compensation, as general agent of the Commission of the District Government for disbursing food, fuel and clothing to the poor, and through this agency, in connection with contributions for that purpose to our Association, the Committee have been en-

abled to relieve every case of absolute destitution brought to their attention. Employment has also been furnished to a considerable number. Lodgings and meals have also been furnished to destitute persons. A sumptuous Thanksgiving dinner was given in Lincoln Hall on Thanksgiving Day, and an entertainment in the evening to five hundred of the newsboys, boot-blacks, and other needy children of the city.

The Board this year accepted a proposition of the Smithsonian Institute for a series of six lectures by Prof. John Tyndall, of England, to be given under the auspices of the Institution, upon the subject of light. Through the generosity of the officers of the Smithsonian Institution, the Association received from the proceeds of the course the amount of \$1,619.34.

The whole number of members, March 31, 1873, was 963. The debt of the Association has been reduced during the year from over \$10,000 to about \$4,300. Through the concession of the corporation owning the building, the rental of the rooms occupied by the Association will in future be \$2,500 per annum, instead of \$3,500. The question of finance, however, continues as heretofore one of painful embarrassment.

Reviewing the entire work of the year, marked progress has been made in every portion of the field the Association has occupied.

The Association in Howard University (colored,) began in 1869 with eleven members, and now numbers eighty-four. During the past year fifteen of these connected themselves with it. Two-thirds of the members are engaged in Christian work in Sabbath Schools and in neighboring churches. Two prayer meetings a week have been held during the year, but toward the close of the Spring term these meetings were held daily. The society is free from debt, and is in a condition to go forward next year with increased zeal.

G. A. HALL, *Cor. Member.*

GEORGIA.

In the City of Augusta a series of Union Prayer Meetings have been attended with God's blessing and the quickening power of His grace. In Waynesboro a similar meeting was recently organized with like results. In Sparta also a movement of the same kind has been started. There is a desire to still further extend the blessed work. All this is to be traced, under God, to the Association in Augusta. God grant we may be faithful to our trust and save the young men of our State by leading them to the Lord Jesus.

J. H. CRANSTON, *Cor. Member.*

LOUISIANA.

At the date of our last report, a year ago, the New Orleans Association, then as now the only one in the State, was in the midst of a struggle to maintain its existence, and since that time its energies have been mainly expended in the continuance of that struggle.

Scarcely had the society begun to recover from the depressing influence of an inefficient general secretary, when his successor proves wholly incompetent and unqualified. His resignation was asked for, presented, and accepted. For several months thereafter the association's struggle for existence was continued, but with the opening of the present year the hour of final dissolution seemed near. At that crisis it was resolved to call a mass meeting of the Christians of this city, and upon their response to stake the future of the

Association. The response was hearty, and thereupon, like Saul at "The Three Taverns," the brethren "thanked God and took courage" to go still further, and plan for a Union Festival, by which they might avail themselves of the sympathies and co-operation of the ladies. This, too, was successful, and by the impetus thus imparted, the dying organization has been raised to a state of rapid convalescence. And now, entirely freed from the incubus of debt, and with a very efficient and zealous General Secretary in the form of Mr. J. S. Sawyn, the Association is steadily rising in public favor, and in our next annual report we hope to tell of much active effort put forth to save the young men of this city, and many Associations planted in different parts of the State.

A. H. NELSON, *Cor. Mem.*

MAINE.

There are twenty-four Associations in the State at the present time, two more than last year. Associations having been organized during the year at Searsport and Belfast, and none have suspended. Nine of the Associations are located in cities and fifteen in large and small towns. Bangor, the second city in the State in size, containing a population of about 20,000, is without an Association. An Association was organized in this City a few years since. After a brief but active existence it suspended; some of the mission work, however, that was under its auspices, continues to be carried on.

The following statistics are correct, I believe, so far as they extend, but they are by no means complete, as I have not received full reports from some of the Associations.

Five of the Associations support reading-rooms, five possess libraries, two have building funds, two have bible classes, seven sustain Sabbath schools. About one hundred and fifty conversions were reported at our last State Convention, in connection with their work.

Our annual Convention, held at Winthrop in October, 1872, was a large and successful gathering. Fifteen Associations were represented by ninety-seven delegates, including representatives from the churches.

So far as I can learn, I think that our Associations have been not less active than in former years.

Although the Associations located in cities have been zealously engaged, I think their labors have not exceeded the labors of some of those situated in our smaller towns.

In my opinion, we have needed, more than anything else, a system of visitation among our Maine Associations—members of the stronger Associations visiting the weaker, encouraging and cheering them—which I hope will be carried out at no distant day.

W. H. HOBBS, *Cor. Member.*

MASSACHUSETTS.

Number of Associations in this State, June, 1872, 105; number that have disbanded this year, or previously, 9; number of new Associations, 3; number of Associations revived, 1; whole number of Associations at present, 100. This includes the West Boston Association of colored young men, whom we are glad to welcome to our ranks, but does not include the Boys' Association of Marblehead.

The Associations in the State are in a more flourishing condition than ever before, having made substantial progress, and done excellent service during the year.

Sixty-five made a report of their work to the State Executive Committee. Thirty-four of the number reported Reading Rooms. During the year several have reported new Rooms, in some instances "the best appointed in Town."

We believe that the churches and clergy, more than all, united *in* and *for* this work.

The finances of the Associations are in a good condition; the reports showing that any Association, if they are *doing* anything, can have money enough by going to business men for it.

Five have employed a General Secretary for personal religious work. The prayer meetings are well attended; there are thirteen daily, in the State.

In all but *one* of the 65 Associations reporting, there have been conversions this year. The Boston Association has had an average of one conversion daily for the five years previous to entering their new building, corner Tremont and Eliot Streets, and the same result has followed in their present Rooms. The Boston Association have a building valued at \$150,000. They will add about \$40,000 to their treasury, as the result of the Bazaar of the Nations, lately held in Music Hall, for 24 consecutive days and evenings.

Many of the larger Associations have had successful social reunions.

Worcester, Lynn and Marblehead Associations have secured building funds.

The merchants of Lynn have subscribed \$25,000 towards a building, and the lot has been purchased.

Very many have increased their membership. Holden, with a population of less than 1,500, has 139 members. East Abington, with 2,500 people, has 150 members, each paying \$4.00 annually.

Hopkinton reported socially and financially in an excellent condition, but only a few of the members are willing and engage actively in the work.

Grafton: "Our greatest need is a gracious outpouring of the Holy Spirit."

Blackstone asks: "How does it work to admit ladies to membership?" They work well.

Worcester has 850 members, 400 young women, 450 young men, and is one of the best working Associations in the State. It is doing a large and varied work. It has an organized corps of watchers, that served 250 nights during the year.

Marblehead, *Rockport*, and *Salem* have placed tables, with good reading matter and bibles upon them, in the waiting rooms of their railroad depots. The expense in *Marblehead* has been met by the voluntary contributions of strangers placed in a box attached to the table. We must not forget the object of our organization. The church needs *young men* to-day. Young women are reached more easily, and by other agencies.

Lowell and *Northampton* controlled the beer law (*no beer*) in their respective cities by means of circulars sent to church members, asking their presence at the polls.

The State Convention was held in *Fall River*, October 13th and 14th. 218 delegates were present, representing 43 Associations. Two were from colleges. Several conversions were the direct result of the convention.

The convention voted, in view of the very successful canvas of 1871-72, to appoint an Executive Committee for the accomplishment of a similar work for the present year, raising for this purpose \$720. Varying the rule of making the corresponding member chairman, they did the best thing possible in

securing the tact and ability of Robert K. Remington, of Fall River, a man of business force and energy, who has thrown into the work that element of success which has characterized his own private affairs. He has thereby called to his aid the business talent of the State in a peculiar manner. Mr. K. A. Burnell, of Illinois, was again secured to devote his whole time to this canvass. 47 towns, in response to their urgent invitation, were visited. Meetings were held, continuing in each place two or three days. Christian people, believing in the eternal verities of their faith, should press its claims with the same earnest enthusiasm with which men of the world advocate the cause of business or of science. Pastors of all sects joined cordially in the discussions, which were practical and spiritual. Members came up with freshness to their work. Revivals of religion followed in several places. We know of 400 conversions as the result of this effort.

Rev. Geo. H. Gould, of Worcester, said in one of the meetings : " An organization that had originated and carried forward such a canvass as this, had proved its right to exist."

The State Executive Committee received high praise from citizens, as being composed of young men of marked ability and devotion to the cause of the Master ; while they, in turn, accorded high and merited praise to the Local Committee for the perfection of all their plans.

The expense of this canvass has been nearly met by a collection taken at one of the meetings in each town. The receipts were \$975 ; expenses, \$1,077.58.

The questions were practical : " Christian drones, how made workers ;" " Young Men's Christian Associations, their demand and promise ;" " The Bible, how best used in our work ;" " Our young men, their temptations and amusements ;" " Common sense in saving souls ;" and others, all purposely bending to the point of the needs of the young in our age. When the canvass occurred on Sunday, all the Churches united in the services. The pastors were earnest in their sympathy ; always present and active. The personal work at the beginning and close of the meetings was a grand feature, not alone in its results, but as an example to the people of the way of working for Jesus.

Some of the State Executive Committee accompanied Mr. Burnell to every place, going severally one to 16, another to 18, a third to 21, a fourth to 26, a fifth to 30, a sixth to 31, and the seventh to 35 of these towns during the canvass. The Chairman gave 22 solid days of time out of his busiest season. Another member of the Committee, an active business man, gave 23 full days. The aggregate of time given by them was 161 days. They travelled collectively 15,846 miles, and probably at the lowest estimate 5,000 miles more were traveled in attending other meetings ; making a total of 20,846 miles during the season.

That we might encourage our sister State of New Hampshire to a similar canvass, the Committee, by invitation, held a three days' meeting, or State Convention, in Manchester, N. H. This resulted in the appointing of a similar Committee by that State, and in the raising of \$1,000 for the expenses of the work.

The canvass continued 101 days and evenings, reaching 48 of the larger towns and cities of our Commonwealth. Lifeless Associations were vitalized, the hearts of the clergy strengthened and encouraged, while inactive church members were aroused to service.

As Corresponding Member and Secretary of the State Executive Committee, I have written 1,587 letters, and spoken outside of Boston 128 times during the

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year. This has been at the expense of my own time from my family, having been absent from my local Association only four days.

This will be my last report from the dear old Bay State. I leave it with feelings of grateful pride and part with a noble band of workers. But the work will go on. May God bless it and the State Executive Committee, and abundantly prosper the labors of my successor.

L. P. ROWLAND, *Cor. Mem.*

MICHIGAN.

The Young Men's Christian Associations of Michigan are in a moderately prosperous condition. During the past year there has been an Association organized in Union City, and initiatory steps are being taken for the organization of one in Charlotte.

I now report 20 Associations organized in the State, but regret to say that only 10 are doing active work. The others have only a name, and some of them hold property, but are doing no work. The Association in Detroit has done a good work and is in a prosperous condition.

The Association in Grand Rapids has been alive to good works, and the General Secretary, in his summary, mentions as a part of their work the distribution of Bibles, pecuniary assistance to the needy, weekly and noonday prayer-meetings, two open-air services each Sunday in the summer, a free singing class, an employment bureau, distribution of tracts, lectures, &c. The Association in East Saginaw report more work done than in any previous year. They did a noble work in the spring, caring for the lumbermen as they came out of the woods. Usually the boys have their winter earnings with them, and too often lose it all in a night at the faro bank or in a brothel; but the members of the Y. M. C. A. met them in the streets, invited them to the rooms which were provided with music, papers, &c., made in every way attractive. Multitudes visited the rooms and spent their evenings there, and many expressed their thankfulness for the interest taken in them. This Association has also held open-air services, sustained a mission Sunday school, &c. The Associations in the two Colleges, University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, and Olivet College, have done a good work. The influence of a Christian Association in an institution of learning is very great, and their work has been signally blessed.

The Associations in Alpena, Ionia, Adrian and Niles are doing some work. They need the quickening of the Holy Spirit. Oh, that the young men of Michigan would pray for it, that they might be strong in the Lord's service.

FRANK D. TAYLOR, *Cor. Member.*

MINNESOTA.

Several vigorous Associations are at work in the State. At Hastings the Society was lately re-organized very promisingly. Daily meetings, Sunday school work and services in the jail are maintained with much interest.

Minneapolis has a live and effective Association. Its noon prayer meetings, Sunday afternoon Bible classes and prayer meetings constitute its chief activity. It keeps open rooms and an effective paid agent is constantly employed. The Rochester Association still lives. The prominent feature of its work is a Weekly Union Normal Bible Class, uniting the Sabbath school teachers and adults from the different churches in studying the lessons for the coming Sabbath, and in

the discussion of Normal Topics. During the winter we maintained daily prayer meeting, and throughout the year Sabbath afternoon Bible readings and prayer meetings. During the summer we organize and sustain several Sabbath schools near the city.

At St. Paul the Association keeps open rooms, has a paid Secretary. A daily meeting and monthly S. S. Teachers' Institute are maintained. The chief work is the city mission and the relief of the poor and destitute. A Bible class is held every Sabbath. The Owatonna Association has re-organized during the past year. Weekly meetings of interest are held on the Lord's day.

Winona has had no organization for some time. A mission Sabbath school and Sabbath Evening Young People's Prayer Meeting commenced by the Association are still sustained by union effort.

There were so few Associations that would coöperate, and these were so scattered, that the Executive Committee did not deem it advisable to hold the State Convention the past year. The failures have been so frequent, the burdens upon churches in the new towns of this young State so heavy, and the really active Christian element among young men so small, that it has been thought expedient not to urge the organization of Associations in places of less than 2,000 or 3,000 population.

Duluth, Mankato, Red Wing and Winona ought to maintain vigorous Associations, and I feel it is important that measures be taken to revive the Associations at these points.

The Executive Committee planned a Christian canvas of the State for June and July, in company with Mr. K. A. Burnell, with the hope of visiting most if not all points where Associations have been or may be organized; a thorough canvas over the Northern Pacific Railroad is also intended. It is too early to report results of this effort.

The Associations of this State are not as prosperous as desired—none are doing all they ought to do, and in most places where the distinctive work is needed, nothing practically is being done. In order to sustain efficient organizations at the principal points in the State, we feel much the need of buildings, which we find it difficult to secure in this new State. Yet we can scarcely expect permanent prosperity till they are secured.

J. D. BLAKE, *Cor. Member.*

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

There are about 25 Associations in this State. Some, in both the small and the large towns, have been active during the year. Several in the larger towns have declined. They have recently been revived through meetings held by our new State Executive Committee, which we are happy to say is doing a good work. The State Convention, usually held in the autumn, was not held at that season last year, owing to the Presidential canvas, and a temporary decline of interest in the cause. Its loss was deeply felt by the Associations. In March, of this year, the Massachusetts State Committee, aided by K. A. Burnell, held a series of meetings in Manchester, similar to those being held throughout the Bay State. Delegates were present from a very few Associations. A committee was appointed to call a State Convention, which was held in Manchester, May 6th and 7th. Over \$1,000 was pledged for State work, and a State Committee elected, as follows: Hon. John P. Newell, and C. P. Wellman, Manchester; M. B. Critchett, and C. W. Moore, Concord; T. H. W.

Hussey, Nashua ; E. O. Foss, Dover ; D. S. Prescott, M.D., Laconia ; John S. Rand, Portsmouth ; L. B. Downing, Hanover ; Rev. John Bragdon, Hillsborough Bridge. June 7th and 8th a convention was held at Nashua, by the State Committee. Mr. M. H. Hodder, of London, was present. It was a meeting of great power. One of the committee stayed the next day, and there was pledged nearly enough money for the employment of a general secretary. They secured Israel Ainsworth, formerly employed by the Boston Y.M.C.A. He is doing a good work, and we trust they will be able to keep him. June 26th and 27th the committee held a convention at Dover, where the Association had just disbanded. A small but profitable gathering was held, and it was voted at the close to reorganize. The last Sabbath of July a meeting will be held in Hillsborough Bridge, where an Association has just been organized, and has already started open-air meetings and a reading room. The first part of August a meeting will be held at Mount Vernon, and an Association will be formed, there being a general desire for one. A good thorough canvas of the State will be held during the next year. Manchester has a general secretary, sustains the open-air work, has started a Savings Bank, which is connected with the best bank in the city, and have organized a Boys' Prayer Meeting. Their rooms are much used, and their devotional meetings are often crowded.

C. P. WELLMAN, *Act. Cor. Mem.*

NEW JERSEY.

The work in the State during the past year has been entirely confined to the Associations as such.

At Newark, the brethren are earnest and practical. Persistently they have overcome difficulties and now see their way clear to brighter things. One thing they do which we would commend to *all*, viz. : they set the Sunday morning breakfast table and go out into the highway and hedges, and invite the stranger in. This they do every Sabbath morning from September to June.

Jersey City has a paid up building fund of \$14,000, and will soon enter upon the erection of a house, to cost \$50,000.

The Plainfield Association invited the Evangelist, Mr. Earle, of Mass., to visit their town, and as a result, 400, hitherto unrenewed souls, have been added to the churches.

A State Convention was held at Hightstown in September last. The attendance, though small in numbers, contained a practical working force. They developed an earnest intent to secure at home and abroad the fullest results. This power and these results have all been lost, from causes not necessary to mention here. We are happy, however, to report the formation of two new Associations—one at Madison and the other at Matteawan. All the Associations in the State, so far as we can ascertain, are in a flourishing condition, with one or two exceptions, and we only regret that our State organization during the past year has been such as not to develop the work upon a deeper and broader basis.

Signed,

CHAS. B. MORRIS, *Chairman*, Montclair.

REV. J. C. BROWN, Trenton.

• HENRY J. RUDD, *Sec.*, Newton.

NEW YORK.

The history of our Associations during the year is varied with many successes and failures. There are now fifty-six Associations on our roll. It has been my privilege to visit twenty-five of them during the last few months, as a representative of the State Executive Committee. In most of these towns Mr. Richard C. Morse has rendered very valuable assistance, and our thanks are due the General Committee for his aid. The work of visitation will be continued in the fall.

The most noticeable feature in comparing together these various Associations, is their individuality. No two of them are working in just the same way.

Some concentrate effort on their own members, others devote nearly all their energies to work outside their home centre; some cultivate the social spirit admirably; some provide liberally for intellectual culture; a few have successful bible classes; some engage largely in the distribution of religious reading; some make the open-air service their main work, conducting it with great skill and effect; and even the prayer meetings, which are the most general feature, differ very widely in their methods and results.

We have endeavored in our visits to carry to each the experience of all, presenting new forms of work and urging new earnestness.

It is gratifying to find in so many leaders of these various movements that a warm Christian enthusiasm for the welfare of others is their inspiration, while those very efforts which sometimes seem to involve self-sacrifice, become to those making them the means of personal growth in Christian graces and character. Most of our Associations are located in pleasant and attractive rooms, but nearly all have constant anxiety with regard to raising needful funds. Several Associations have added considerably to their building funds, and our sixth Association building has just been begun at Schenectady.

While lecture courses have in some cases been unremunerative, in others it has been found that the furnishing of rational and instructive entertainments has had a decided tendency to diminish the interest in amusements of a pernicious character. Unusual care has been taken to make the lecture courses of the Associations valuable in an intellectual and moral sense, and not mere expedients to fill up the treasury.

Many of our Associations exercise a powerful influence in promoting harmony and co-operation among the various denominations of Christians. In a very brief time an altogether new spirit has often been made to prevail.

The direct results of our work seem to lie rather in these directions than in a great harvest of converted souls. The year has been marked by but few revivals throughout the State, but, on the contrary, by a painful religious indifference, and the Associations necessarily share in the prevalent feeling of the places where they are located. Still it is frequently the testimony, that the best Christian feeling in the community is found inside the Association, and that through the Association it accomplishes decided results outside as well.

Some of the most influential of our Associations in religious work have grown up in towns and villages of moderate size, where they enlist almost all the moral forces of the community in their behalf and gain considerable prominence. In smaller villages their working force is apt to be feeble; in the larger cities they are comparatively overshadowed by other institutions.

Our Associations are generally slow in computing the number of conversions

due to their instrumentality, feeling that they are co-workers with so many other agencies; but such tokens of God's blessing have by no means been wanting.

Our seventh State Convention was held in Lockport last August. A combination of unfavorable circumstances rendered it less effective than former ones, but we anticipate a larger and more instructive gathering at Amsterdam in October.

ERSKINE UHL, *Cor. Member.*

OHIO.

The Lord has wonderfully blessed Ohio. Thousands have been awakened to renewed life. Many associations have been specially active during the past season. A few have ceased to be, but as many as fourteen new societies have been added to the roll.

Ashland reports Sabbath school work and weekly prayer meetings.

Akron holds mission and union meetings, also weekly prayer meetings.

Bellevue.—A young Association giving great promise of usefulness, reports special religious interest.

Bucyrus has recently secured new rooms.

Brooklyn.—A young Association, has done a large amount of delegation work.

Clyde.—Organized in April; promises to be an active Association.

Chagrin Falls.—A young Association; has done good work.

Cincinnati.—Has been going on from strength to strength. Meetings have been large and interesting, and in the numerous fields of labor it has been greatly blessed. A daily and two weekly meetings are held at the rooms. Out-door services and meetings in jail, barracks and workhouse form part of the work. A large amount of visitations by delegates, and a monthly temperance meeting, well sustained, are also reported. Deep religious interest has prevailed, and many have been brought to Christ.

The *Cleveland* Association sustained five open-air meetings; also meetings at workhouse, depot rooms, jail, hospital, infirmary, and in three mission fields on the Sabbath. Regular noon-day prayer meetings. Some two hundred delegations have been sent to neighboring towns and villages, have assisted to organize seven Associations, and have distributed over forty thousand pages of tracts and other religious reading.

Two superintendents or general secretaries have been employed, and a city missionary. There is a library of over one thousand (1000) volumes in the association building, and another at the rooms of the railway branch.

Railway Branch of Cleveland Y. M. C. A..—Three years ago meetings were established in the waiting-room on Sabbath afternoon, and prayer meetings in the depot-master's room on Wednesday evenings. They were small at first, but increased till one year ago the Railway Branch was established. A superintendent specially for this work was secured, reading-room with writing table, and religious papers was fitted up, these facilities being offered to both railroad men and travelers. Men injured on the road are visited, cared for and comforted with the Gospel of Christ. Great good has been done, and no question remains as to the wisdom of the enterprise.

Damascus sustains weekly meetings.

Dayton has a prosperous Association, which sustains a daily and three weekly

Prayer Meetings, Cottage Meetings and other services at school-houses and two chapels. They give a free lecture course and have sent out many delegations.

Elmore recently organized an Association.

Granville has a wide-awake Association which sustains four Missions and weekly Prayer-Meetings.

Hamilton reports two weekly meetings, a Bible Class and Sunday School.

Mt. Vernon sustains weekly meetings.

Mt. Union reports special religious interest.

Martin's Ferry reports Open-Air Prayer Meetings Sabbath afternoon in a beautiful grove, with an attendance of over two hundred.

Medina has just organized an Association.

Massilon has a growing Association under good management.

Norwalk.—A wide-awake Association was organized November, 1872. A membership of 278 has sent out 160 delegations, (as many as 13 in one Sabbath) and yet there was "more oil in the cruse." God has richly blessed this faithful work.

Ohio Penitentiary.—The meetings of the Association have been well attended. Prisoners have access to State Library of the Penitentiary. The Associations throughout the State have cordially received and kindly cared for those who have presented their certificates of membership. "I was in prison and ye visited me." The Warden's Report of the Ohio Penitentiary says: The religious interest that has existed among the prisoners for the past two years still continues. Our Y.M.C.A. now numbers 210 in full membership and 14 on probation. About 163 of those connected with it have been discharged. So far as we have been able to keep track of them after going out, a great majority are leading honest, upright, consistent lives. Of those that remained, and who have been members for any length of time, probably as great a proportion by their daily lives and conduct, and the spirit they manifested, give evidence of a genuine change of heart as among an equal number in almost any community outside.

We cannot read the heart, and with all care and watchfulness, must necessarily be deceived sometimes. They may themselves be deceived, or purposely deceive others, for some sinister motive. This we expect, and are only thankful that such cases are not more frequent. We have great cause for gratitude, to God and much encouragement for the future.

Portsmouth sustains street preaching and weekly meetings; also, a good library. The next State Convention is to be entertained here.

Painesville holds two mission schools and weekly meetings. They have a library, and report much interest during the past season.

Troy sustains weekly meetings and a Bible class service at the County Infirmary. They have also done some delegation work.

Toledo.—An Association already active received impulse and strength from the last State Convention. Many conversions during the Convention were followed by a revival of great power and interest. Three weekly meetings, a mission school, a Bible class and a literary and debating society are sustained. Many delegations have been sent out.

Wellsville.—A young Association; sustains weekly, prayer and cottage meetings.

Xenia.—Their building was donated; they have a good library, and sustain weekly meetings.

Zanesville.—Sustains daily meetings, two Sabbath schools and meeting at

County Infirmary. Many Associations are passed entirely without mention, owing to their failure to report.

Delegation Work—Hardly a town has been visited where some good results have not been manifest. Conversions and revivals of power have often followed. We do not attempt to fill pulpits nor preach. Union services are held, cementing pastors and people of all denominations in a common bond of Christian sympathy, and bringing God's blessing in glorious power. When these delegates return prayer-meetings at home never lack in interest and great growth in grace, and power for good is apparent.

W. J. COOKE, *Cor. Member.*

PENNSYLVANIA.

The work in Pennsylvania during the past year has been very encouraging. At the State Convention, held in Carlisle, in September, 1872, it was determined to increase the number of members of the Executive Committee; so that at present it consists of the following persons: H. K. Porter, Chairman, Pittsburg; D. E. Small, York; James McCormick, Jr., Harrisburg; John Wanamaker, Philadelphia; Major E. W. Matthews, Foxburg; J. C. Brown, West Greenville; W. H. Jessup, Montrose; Dr. Thomas McCune, Scranton; A. Blair, Carlisle; Gen. J. A. Beaver, Bellefonte; Dr. C. Sheridan, Johnstown; Major William Frew, Pittsburg; R. S. Moffat, Erie. Each member has supervision of one district, consisting of a number of counties, in one of which he resides.

Public and private visitation has been prosecuted by the State Secretary, assisted by Prof. William Johnson. Local Conventions, continuing from one to three days in each place, have been held in Princetown, Cross Creek, Foxburg, Emlenton, Canal, Pleasantville, Tidioute, Rouseville, East Hickory, Waynesboro, Greencastle, Newville, New Cumberland, Jersey Shore, Williamsport, West Chester, Blairsville, Turtle Creek, Beaver Falls, Doylestown, Brierville, Richboro, Bristol, Hulmeville, Sharon, Shrewsbury, Hanover, Greece City and Weatherly.

No written statement can give a correct impression of these meetings. It is sufficient to say that the Committee are so much encouraged with the results that it is determined to continue them from year to year, in such places and at such times as may seem most desirable.

In many places a precious work of grace grew out of them. At Pleasantville they continued them for some time, and as a result they report fifty conversions; Princetown, twenty-four; and Williamsport, New Cumberland, Emlenton, Lancaster, Waynesboro, Blairsville and Greencastle report increased interest and activity.

NEW BUILDINGS.

Through the large-hearted liberality of William Adamson, Esq., of Germantown, the Association in that place has entered a home of its own, worth \$45,000. Frankford has one worth \$10,500. Carlisle has purchased a mission building worth \$1,500. Lebanon has entered a building presented for its use by Mrs. Dawson Coleman of that place. At Beaver Falls the Cutlery Company presented the Association with a building worth \$3,000; fitted it up for their Chinese Mission School, in which they now have a school of over one hundred Chinamen; and besides this they presented them with a room of their own, and furnished it with reading matter.

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Many of the Associations have been visited privately by the Secretary, and the great majority are working with encouragement. New Associations have been organized in Newville, Green Castle, Sharon, West Chester, Bristol, Hughesville, Doylestown, Ebensburg, East Hickory and Greece City.

S. A. TAGGART, *Cor. Member.*

SOUTH CAROLINA.

The third annual Convention of the Associations (colored) of South Carolina was held in Winnsboro, August 28-30, 1872. Ten Associations, viz., Charleston, Columbia, Chester, Dutch Fork, Greenwood, Lexington, Mount Pleasant, Mount Zion and New Hope, were represented by twenty-one delegates. Reports were received by the State Executive Committee from these and from six others. Five have reading rooms; nine sustain Sunday schools; eleven hold prayer meetings; five keep up debating classes or societies, and this form of effort and culture is warmly advocated; five on the roll had been newly organized by the Committee. Among the resolutions adopted was one strongly deprecating "the entering into politics by many of our ministers," who have thus "lost their spiritual influence and have become corrupt demagogues and politicians." This course was earnestly condemned, specially by the ministers present who "resolved that we who are ministers in this Convention will endeavor by the grace of God to keep out of politics."

Since the close of our Convention I have received reports from several brethren that they have organized five new Associations. I am in correspondence with them, and we hope to hold in August a larger Convention than ever before. Our own Association has two Mission Sunday Schools under its care, one numbering 58 children, with a Bible-class of 15 members.

HENRY W. THOMAS, *Act. Cor. Member.*

VERMONT.

Relative to the general aspect of Associations in Vermont, I cannot render a just account; since, from the thirty-eight organizations in the State, but twelve have responded to the call for a report.

While we deeply regret that some Associations have ceased to exist, we bless God that others have doubled their diligence, and are doing with their might what their hands find to do.

Perue (a small town amid the mountains) has an Association of sixteen active members who support four mission sabbath schools, with an average attendance of ninety scholars!

Waterbury still sustains one out-post Sabbath service, beside bible lessons at the Reform School.

Windham and Windsor also have sent us words of cheer.

From Montpelier we support four mission Sunday schools, and on Sabbath afternoons hold a religious service at the jail. God has blessed our labors in these directions. Of one pleasant feature in our Association I would like to speak. Our fifty-three active members represent four denominations, with

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each person *devoted* to the interests of his own church, yet *all* remember the exhortation in 1st Peter, to "be all of one mind; have compassion one of another; love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous."

South Royaltan reports: "Our Association has virtually given up, because our efforts were required in the active, efficient little church that is the fruit of our labor. The edifice costing \$2,600 is all paid for, and has an attendance of 100, 42 of whom are church members." The above gives cheering evidence that Associations sometimes reported extinct, are not dead; having been the beginning of, or accessory to some feeble church, which now encircles the little nucleus, and with it radiates light into the surrounding darkness.

A. J. HOWE, *Cor. Sec.*

ASSOCIATION BUILDINGS.

<i>Place.</i>	<i>Value.</i>	<i>Place.</i>	<i>Value.</i>
AURORA, Ill.....	\$11,000	NEWARK, N. J.....	\$80,000
BEAVER FALLS, Pa....	3,000	NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J.	10,000
BETHLEHEM, Pa.....	20,000	NEW LONDON, (Chapel)	2,750
BEVERLY, N. J.....	4,500	NEWTOWN, N. Y.....	5,000
BOSTON, Mass.....	150,000	NEW UTRECHT, N. Y..	5,000
CARLISLE, Pa., (Chapel)	1,500	NEW YORK CITY.....	500,000
CENTRAL NORTON, N.B. (Chapel).....	500	NORTH SHORE, N. Y..	20,000
CHARLOTTETOWN, P.E.I.	12,000	OMAHA, Neb.....	6,000
CHELSEA, Mass. (Chapel)	3,000	PHILADELPHIA, Pa....	300,000
CHELTENHAM, Pa.....	15,000	POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y..	52,500
CLEVELAND, O.....	\$35,000	ROCKPORT, Mass., Chapel	3,500
DAYTON, O. (Chapel)..	4,500	SAN FRANCISCO, Cal...	100,000
DUNBAR, Pa.....	2,000	ST. JOHN, N. B.....	• 35,000
DURHAM, N. S.....	400	SHOREHAM, Vt., (Chapel)	1,800
FRANKFORD, Pa.....	10,500	SPRINGDALE, O., Chapel	1,500
GERMANTOWN, Pa.....	45,000	TORONTO, Ont.....	45,000
INDIANAPOLIS, Ind....	50,000	TURTLE CREEK, Pa....	2,500
MERIDEN, Conn.....	15,000	WASHINGTON, D. C....	200,000
MONTREAL, Can.....	60,000	WEST RIVER, N. S....	1,000

TOTAL, 38 Buildings, valued at.....\$1,914,450

BUILDING FUNDS.

<i>Place.</i>	<i>Amount.</i>	<i>Place.</i>	<i>Amount.</i>
ALEXANDRIA, Va.....	\$1,500	MONTCLAIR, N. J.....	500
AMSTERDAM, N. Y.....	1,600	Mt. JOY, Pa.....	1,500
AUBURN, Me.....	3,000	ORANGE, N. J.....	2,000
AUBURN, N. Y.....	1,500	PHILADELPHIA, Pa.....	65,000
BALTIMORE, Md.....	174,000	PICTOU, N. S.....	2,724
BIDDEFORD, Me.....	65	PROVIDENCE, R. I.....	1,000
BRISTOL, R. I.....	2,000	QUEBEC, Can.....	2,500
BROOKVILLE, Ont.....	100	ST. CATHERINE's, Ont..	500
BUFFALO, N. Y.....	31,000	SCHENECTADY, N. Y..	26,000
CINCINNATI, O.....	28,204	SELMA, Ala.....	6,330
COLCHESTER, Ct.....	200	SCRANTON, Pa.....	290
CONCORD, N. H.....	500	SYRACUSE, N. Y.....	700
CORTLAND, N. Y.....	264	TIDIOUTE, Pa. (a lot)..	2,300
FITCHBURG, Mass.....	800	TOLEDO, O.....	10,000
GREENPOINT, N. Y.....	200	TRURO, N. S.....	1,500
HALIFAX, N. S.....	17,000	WARREN, O.....	5,000
HAMILTON, O.....	10	WESTERLY, R. I.....	500
HAMILTON, Ont.....	3,300	WINNSBORO, S. C.....	10
JERSEY CITY, N. J.....	15,000	WORCESTER, Mass.....	2,100
LYNN, Mass.....	25,000	YARMOUTH, N. S.....	5,000
MANCHESTER, N. H....	250	ZAINESVILLE, O.....	6,000
MERIDEN, Ct.....	1,000		
TOTAL, Building 43 Funds.....			\$447,947

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS

WITH GENERAL SECRETARIES.*



AUBURN, N. Y.	S. B. Almy.	NEW YORK CITY....	R. R. McBurney.
BOSTON, MASS.	L. P. Rowland.	“ Bowery Branch,	John Dooly.
BROOKLYN, N. Y....	Wm. M. Martin.	“ E. Branch, R. M.	Offord.
“ “	G. T. Clark.	“ Harlem Branch,	Clark Healey.
BUFFALO, N. Y.....	I. G. Jenkins.	“ Yorkville Branch,	A. B. Carner.
CINCINNATI, O	A. C. Scott.	OSWEGO, N. Y.....	D. H. Emerson.
CLEVELAND, O.....	Lang Sheaff.	PHILADELPHIA, PA...	Thos. Marshall.
“ Railroad Sec...	G. W. Cobb.	PITTSBURG, PA.....	R. A. Orr.
COBURG, ONT.....	Angus Crawford.	PORT HOPE, ONT.....	Robert Gray.
DAYTON, O.....	H. P. Adams.	POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y...	Erakine Uhl.
DETROIT, MICH.	E. B. Moody.	PROVIDENCE, R. I....	W. H. Anderson.
DUBUQUE, IOWA....	S. N. Millard.	ROME, N. Y.....	H. S. Ninde.
ELMIRA, N. Y.....	T. B. Surbridge.	ST. CATHERINE'S, ONT...	Jas. Brand.
ERIE, PA.....	A. L. Littell.	ST. PAUL, MINN.....	E. W. Chase.
GERMANTOWN, PA....	A. L. Kelly.	SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.....	H. Cox.
GUELPH, ONT.	S. S. Bates.	SCHENECTADY, N. Y....	Lucius Hoyt.
HAMILTON, ONT.....	D. A. Sinclair.	SCRANTON, PA.	T. A. Goodwin.
INDIANAPOLIS, IND...	Leroy W. Braden.	SYRACUSE, N. Y.....	W. S. Franklin.
LANCASTER, PA.....	Walter Sutton.	TOLEDO, OHIO.....	T. A. Nelson.
LOWELL, MASS.....	H. J. McCoy.	TORONTO, ONT.....	T. J. Wilkie.
MANCHESTER, N. H...	C. P. Wellman.	UTICA, N. Y.....	G. E. Allen.
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN...	L. P. Dorland.	WASHINGTON, D. C...	G. A. Hall.
MONTREAL, CAN....	Alfred Sandham.	WESTERLY, R. I.....	T. C. Crocker.
NASHUA, N. H.....	Israel Alnsworth.	WORCESTER, MASS...	Joshua Freeman.
NEWARK, N. J.....	J. S. Ostrander.	ZANESVILLE, O.....	Rob't. Thompson.
NEW ORLEANS, LA.....	T. L. Scott.		

RICHARD C. MORSE, New York,

Gen'l Sec'y of the Ex. Com. of the International Convention.

S. A. TAGGART, Pittsburg, Pa.,

State Y. M. C. A. Sec'y of Pennsylvania.

* By this name is intended the Officer of the Association who is salaried to give all or a specified portion of his time to the work of the Society.

ASSOCIATION ADDRESSES.

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| <p>ALEXANDRIA, Va., 95 King Street.
 ATCHISON, Kan., 402 Commercial St.
 AUGUSTA, Ga., Broad Street.
 AURORA, Ill., The Island.
 BALTIMORE, Md., 160 W. Baltimore St.
 BETHLEHEM, Pa., 84 South Main Street.
 BIDDEFORD, Me., 164 Main Street.
 BOSTON, Mass., Tremont and Eliot Sts.
 SOUTH BOSTON, Mass., 476 Broadway.
 BRANTFORD, Ont., Colborne Street.
 BRISTOL, R. I., Hope Street.
 BROOKLYN, E. D., N. Y., 4th and 2d Sts.
 BROOKLYN, N. Y., Cor. Fulton Street
 and Gallatin Place.
 BUFFALO, N. Y., 319 Main Street.
 BURLINGTON, Vt., S Paul Street.
 CAIRO, Ill., 128 Commercial Avenue.
 CARTHAGE, N. Y., 73 State Street.
 CHARLESTON, S. C., (Co'd) 12 Wall St.
 CHICAGO, Ill., 95 W. Randolph Street.
 CINCINNATI, Ohio, 200 Vine Street.
 CLEVELAND, O., 79 Public Square.
 CONCORD, N. H., Main and School Sts.
 COUNCIL BLUFFS, Iowa, Pearl Street.
 DAVENPORT, Iowa, 3d Street.
 DAYTON, O., 27 N. Main Street.
 DUBUQUE, Iowa, 180 Main Street.
 EASTON, Pa., 56 Northampton Street.
 ELMIRA, N. Y., Lake Street.
 ERIE, Pa., State and 8th Streets.
 FRANKFORD, Pa., 4402 Frankford Ave.
 FREDERICK CITY, Md., Ch. & Market Sts.
 GERMANTOWN, Pa., Main Street.
 GOSHEN, N. Y., 82 W. Main Street.
 GREENPOINT, N. Y., Orchard Street.
 GUELPH, Ont., Wyndham Street.
 HAGERSTOWN, Md., Public Square.
 HALIFAX, N. S., 197 Hollis Street.
 HAMILTON, Ont., 23 King Street, East.
 HARRISBURG, Pa., Third Street.
 HOUSTON, Texas, 2 Capitol Street.
 HUDSON, N. Y., 192 Warren Street.</p> | <p>INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., 35 N. Illinois St.
 JANESVILLE, Wis., Milwaukee Street.
 JERSEY CITY, N. J., Montgomery and
 Gregory Streets.
 LANCASTER, Pa., W. King Street.
 LEAVENWORTH, Kan., 309 Delaware St.
 LEBANON, Pa., 2 N. 9th Street.
 LITTLE FALLS, N. Y., Main Street.
 MALONE, N. Y., Elm Street.
 MANCHESTER, N. H., 31 Hanover Street.
 MONTPELIER, Vt., Main Street.
 MONTREAL, Craig and Radegonde St.
 N. ALBANY, Ind., Spring & Pearl Sts.
 NEWARK, N. J., 14 W. Park Street.
 NEW BEDFORD, Mass., Purchase and
 Union Streets.
 N. BRUNSWICK, N. J., 48 Church St.
 NEWBURGH, N. Y., 61 Smith Street.
 NEW GLASGOW, N. S., Provost Street.
 N. HAVEN, Conn., Chapel & Orange Sts.
 NEW LONDON, Conn., 77 State Street.
 NEW ORLEANS, La., 82 Camp Street.
 NEW YORK CITY, 23d St. and 4th Ave.
 Bowery Branch, 134 Bowery.
 Harlem Branch, 2223 3d Avenue.
 Eastern Branch, 492 Grand Street.
 Yorkville Branch, 8d Ave. & 86th St.
 Colored Asso'n, 185 Bleecker Street.
 PEEKSKILL, N. Y., 35 Division Street.
 PHILADELPHIA, Pa., 1210 Chestnut St.
 PICTOU, N. S., Water Street.
 PITTSBURGH, Pa., Penn and 6th Streets.
 PORTLAND, Me., Congress & Casco Sts.
 PORTSMOUTH, Oregon, 2d & Court Sts.
 POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y., Cor. Main and
 Washington Streets.
 PROVIDENCE, R. I., 98 Weybosset St.
 QUEBEC, Can., 24 Fabrique Street.
 ROCHESTER, Minn., Main and Zambro
 Streets.
 ROCHESTER UNIVERSITY, N. Y., 63
 Sibley Block.
 ROCKPORT, Mass., 1 Broadway.</p> |
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ROME, N. Y., Cor. Dominick and Washington Streets.	TRENTON, N. J., 20 E. State Street.
SALEM, Mass., 184 Essex Street.	UTICA, N. Y., 59 Franklin Square.
SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., 232 Sutter Street.	WASHINGTON, D. C., D and 9th Sts.
SCHENECTADY, N. Y., State Street.	WATERBURY, Conn., Bank Street.
SCRANTON, Pa., 425 Lackawanna Ave.	WATERTOWN, N. Y., Washington Blk.
SELMA, Ala., 48 Broad Street.	WESTERLY, R. I., Main Street.
SPRINGFIELD, Mass., 344 Main Street.	WEST RIVER, N. S., Union Hall.
ST. PAUL, Minn., 160 3d Street.	WHEELING, W. Va., Market Street.
SYRACUSE, N. Y., 16 So. Salina Street.	WILLIAMSPORT, Pa., 3d and Pine Sts.
TOLEDO, O., 154 Summit Street.	WORCESTER, Mass., Chapin Block, Pearl Street.
TORONTO, Ont., Queen & James Sts.	

ADDRESSES OF FOREIGN ASSOCIATIONS.

DUBLIN, Ireland, 54 Up. Sackville St.	LONDON, 165 Aldersgate St.
EDINBURGH, Scotland, 73 Adam Square.	LONDONDERRY, Ireland, East Wall.
LIVERPOOL, 44 Renshaw St.	PARIS, France, 160 Rue Montmartre.
LEEDS, England, 13 South Parade.	ROME, Italy, 21 Via Condotti.

A LIST OF NINETY-SEVEN STATE AND PROVINCIAL CONVENTIONS

HELD BY THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS OF THE
UNITED STATES AND BRITISH PROVINCES,

SEPTEMBER, 1866—MAY, 1873.

These Conventions owe their origin to the International Convention held at Albany in June, 1866, where the following resolution was passed:

Resolved, That the Convention instruct the Corresponding Member of the Executive Committee of each State, District Territory and Province to call annually in the Autumn (after consultation with the Associations) a Convention of the Associations in such State, District, Territory and Province."

Since the passage of this resolution, the following ninety-seven Conventions have been held:

STATES OF THE NORTHWEST.			No. of Ass'ns Represented.	No. of Delegates.	Correspond'g Members.
Place.	Time.				
I. Milwaukee, Wis.....	Sept. 27-29, 1866 (Sun'y)		8	150	...
II. Chicago, Ill.....	Oct. 3-4, 1867.....		36	100	...
III. St. Louis.....	Nov. 24-26, 1868.....		25	60	...
MARITIME PROVINCES.					
(SPEND SUNDAY IN PLACE OF MEETING.)					
I. Halifax, N. S.....	Oct. 3-7, 1867.....		38	90	20
II. Halifax, N. S.....	Sept. 17-20, 1868.....		45	126	20
III. Pictou, N. S.....	Sept. 16-19, 1869.....		31	152	...
IV. St. John, N. B.....	Oct. 14-17, 1869.....		22	60	10
V. Charlottetown, P. E. I.	Sept. 8-11, 1870.....		57	158	28
VI. St. John, N. B.....	July 6-8, 1871.....		44	130	32
VII. Halifax, N. S.....	Sept. 5-8, 1872.....		...	...	...
ONTARIO AND QUEBEC.					
I. Toronto.....	Oct. 28-29, 1868.....		18	72	2
II. Hamilton.....	Sept. 28-29, 1869.....		22	76	11
III. Ottawa.....	Sept. 7-8, 1870.....		9	48	5
IV. St. Catharines.....	Aug. 2-3, 1871.....		30	144	19
V. Belleville.....	Aug. 20-22, 1872.....		22	102	12

ALABAMA.

(SPEND SUNDAY IN PLACE OF MEETING)

Place.	Time.	No. of Ass'n's Represented.	No. of Delegates.	Correspond'g Members.
I. Selma.....	Sept. 5-7, 1872.....	5	35	6
II. Selma.....	May 13-15, 1873.....	8	39	7

CALIFORNIA.

I. San Francisco.....	Autumn, 1868.....	---	---	---
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CONNECTICUT.

I. New Haven.....	May 21-22, 1867.....	12	58	21
II. Hartford.....	Oct. 29, 1867.....	15	60	10
III. New London.....	Oct. 21-22, 1868.....	17	54	15
IV. West Winsted.....	Oct. 20-21, 1869.....	14	61	6
V. Bridgeport.....	Oct. 20-21, 1870.....	17	81	8
VI. Mystic.....	Oct. 26-27, 1871.....	15	50	15
VII. Waterbury.....	Oct. 9-10, 1872.....	18	100	12

INDIANA.

I. Lafayette.....	Oct. 6-7, 1869.....	5	25	11
II. Greencastle.....	March 28-30, 1871.....	6	32	3
III. Indianapolis.....	March 26-27, 1872.....	6	30	3

IOWA.

I. Cedar Rapids.....	April 6-7, 1869.....	17	68	39
II. Marshalltown.....	April 5-6, 1870.....	21	75	20
III. Iowa City.....	April 4-6, 1871.....	9	57	---
IV. Davenport.....	Nov. 19-20, 1872.....	---	---	---

MAINE.

I. Lewiston.....	Oct. 16-17, 1867.....	---	---	---
II. Portland.....	April 28-29, 1868.....	19	126	9
III. Bath.....	Oct. 20-21, 1868.....	23	98	2
IV. Bangor.....	Oct. 20-21, 1869.....	15	57	14
V. Augusta.....	Oct. 27-28, 1870.....	18	80	12
VI. Biddeford.....	Sept. 26-27, 1871.....	15	100	13
VII. Winthrop.....	Oct. 2-4, 1872.....	15	97	15

MARYLAND AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

I. Baltimore.....	Nov. 21-22, 1866.....	8	125	11
II. Washington.....	Oct. 30, Nov. 1, 1867.....	6	70	12

MASSACHUSETTS.

I. Springfield.....	Oct. 16-17, 1867.....	38	238	39
II. Worcester.....	Sept. 23-24, 1868.....	77	314	23
III. Lowell.....	October, 1869.....	59	290	60
IV. Chelsea.....	Oct. 13-14, 1870.....	60	300	12
V. Northampton.....	Sept. 27-29, 1871.....	40	150	6
VI. Fall River.....	Oct. 23-24, 1872.....	35	107	10

MICHIGAN.

Place.	Time.	No. of Asst's Represented.	No. of Delegates.	Corresponding Members.
I. Marshall.....	Dec. 1-2, 1868.....	20	60	---
II. Kalamazoo.....	Mar. 15-16, 1870.....	14	50	---
III. Jackson.....	Jan. 17-18, 1871.....	12	45	---
IV. East Saginaw.....	Feb. 20-21, 1872.....	11	45	---

MINNESOTA.

I. Minneapolis.....	Dec. 21-22, 1870.....	5	30	---
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NEW HAMPSHIRE.

I. Manchester.....	Aug. 11, 1868.....	7	27	97
II. Nashua.....	Oct. 5-6, 1869.....	25	77	60
III. Concord.....	Oct. 24-26, 1870.....	21	65	111
IV. Portsmouth.....	Oct. 3-4, 1871.....	20	30	50
V. Manchester.....	May 5-7, 1873.....	15	50	70

NEW JERSEY.

I. Elizabeth.....	Oct. 1-2, 1867.....	8	75	16
II. Trenton.....	Oct. 8-9, 1868.....	14	64	3
III. Jersey City.....	Sept. 29-30, 1869.....	18	86	37
IV. New Brunswick.....	Sept. 28-29, 1870.....	16	60	10
V. Newark.....	Oct. 25-26, 1871.....	21	120	12
VI. Hightstown.....	Sept. 17-18, 1872.....	15	50	5

NEW YORK.

I. Oswego.....	Oct. 24-25, 1866.....	9	18	38
II. Elmira.....	Sept. 18-19, 1867.....	26	78	15
III. Auburn.....	Sept. 9-10, 1868.....	24	64	9
IV. Schenectady.....	Sept. 21-23, 1869.....	22	68	8
V. Poughkeepsie.....	Sept. 6-7, 1870.....	24	94	20
VI. Utica.....	Sept. 12-14, 1871.....	25	70	20
VII. Lockport.....	Aug. 27-29, 1872.....	18	66	---

OHIO.

(Spend Sunday in place of Meeting.)

I. Columbus.....	Nov. 8-10, 1867.....	15	58	7
II. Cleveland.....	Oct. 16-18, 1868.....	22	106	19
III. Mansfield.....	Oct. 22-24, 1869.....	23	109	20
IV. Cincinnati.....	Nov. 4-6, 1870.....	25	120	33
V. Zanesville.....	Oct. 27-29, 1871.....	29	101	17
VI. Toledo.....	Nov. 15-17, 1872.....	21	88	21

PENNSYLVANIA.

I. Philadelphia.....	Nov. 16, 1866.....	---	---	---
II. Williamsport.....	Nov. 2-4, 1869.....	29	132	44
III. Scranton.....	Nov. 8-10, 1870.....	33	107	20
IV. Erie.....	Sept. 12-14, 1871.....	44	193	16
V. Carlisle.....	Sept. 10-12, 1872.....	32	121	15

RHODE ISLAND.

Place.	Time.	No. of Assn's Represented.	No. of Delegates.	Correspond'g Members.
I. Providence.....	Dec. 3-4, 1868.....	7	56	134
II. Westerly.....	Oct. 19-20, 1869.....	4	56	92
III. Pawtucket.....	Oct. 18-19, 1870.....	5	60	90
IV. Bristol.....	Oct. 18-19, 1871.....	6	40	50
V. Westerly.....	Oct. 30, 1872.....	3	18	...
SOUTH CAROLINA—(COLORED.)				
I. Columbia.....	Aug. 22-24, 1870.....	4	11	17
II. Charleston.....	Aug. 24-27, 1871.....	5	12	50
III. Winnsboro.....	Aug. 28-30, 1872.....	10	21	6
VERMONT.				
I. Burlington.....	Oct. 8-10, 1867.....	12	35	200
II. Brattleboro.....	Oct. 13-15, 1868.....	...	...	350
III. Rutland.....	Oct. 19-20, 1869.....	...	...	...
IV. St. Johnsbury.....	Oct. 11-12, 1870.....	32	100	350
V. Montpelier.....	Oct. 11-12, 1871.....	25	90	300
VI. Springfield.....	Nov. 6-8, 1872.....	14	25	35
WEST VIRGINIA.—(SUNDAY.)				
I. Clarksburg.....	Dec. 1-3, 1871.....	7	32	...
II. Parkersburg.....	Nov. 21-23, 1872.....	4	20	...
WISCONSIN.				
I. Janesville.....	Nov. 3-5, 1870.....	13	67	2
II. Whitewater.....	Nov. 1-3, 1871.....	13	72	8

SUMMARY.

States of the Northwest.....	3	Michigan.....	6
Maritime Provinces.....	7	Minnesota.....	7
Ontario and Quebec.....	5	New Hampshire.....	4
		New Jersey.....	1
Alabama.....	1	New York.....	5
California.....	1	Ohio.....	6
Connecticut.....	7	Pennsylvania.....	5
Indiana.....	3	Rhode Island.....	5
Iowa.....	4	South Carolina (Colored).....	3
Maine.....	7	Vermont.....	6
Maryland and D. C.....	2	West Virginia.....	2
Massachusetts.....	5	Wisconsin.....	2
Total.....			97

CONTINUATION OF THE OFFICIAL REPORTS RECEIVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 1872-3.

NAME—ADDRESS.			PRESIDENT.	CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.	No. of Members.	Current Expenses last year.	Reading Room and Average Daily Attendance.	No. of Volumes in Library.	Estimated Value of Library.	Value of Building.	Amount of Debt on it.	Building Fund.	Sermons to Young Men.	Prayer Meetings at Rooms.	Bible Class and Average Attendance.	Other Religious Meetings.	Was Day of Prayer observed in Nov.	Literary Class.	Free Classes.	Special Religious Interest.
Chambersburg, Penn.	D. K. Appenzell.	G. A. Miller, Jr.	73	\$50	8									Wy.	200	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Chandlersville, Ohio.	R. Chambers.	T. M. Crumbecher.												Wy.	200	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Chardon, Ohio.	E. V. Canfield.	J. W. Canfield.	70	50	Yes	1,900								Wy.	200	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Charleston, S. C. (Colored).	W. Davis.	H. W. Thomas.	150											Wy.	200	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Charlestown, Mass.	S. E. Adams.	G. H. Gammons.	269	402	30	450	175	\$12,000	\$4,000			Yes	Dy. 3 wy.	200	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Charlottetown, P. E. I.	Charles Palmer.	C. P. Perkins.	97	90		280	400					Yes	Wy.	200	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Chatham, N. B.	A. W. Paterson.	G. B. Fraser.	138	433	Yes	250		3,000	300			Yes	2 wy.	200	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Chelsea, Mass.	A. C. Tenney.	W. J. Bryant.	124	766	Yes	3,000		15,000				Yes	3 wy.	200	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Cheltenham, Pa.	Jay Cooke.	H. C. Birchall.		5,000				3,000						2 wy.	200	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Chicago, Ill.	T. W. Harvey.	W. S. Waller.												3 wy.	200	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Chillicothe, Ohio.	C. F. Deffen.	W. C. Paterson.	10	12		80								B. W.	200	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Churchville, N. S.	W. Macmillan.	R. Robertson.												Dy. 3 wy.	200	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Cincinnati, Ohio.	H. Thane Miller.	E. Burnham.	629	6,320	183	748		500				Yes	Dy.	200	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Cleveland, W. Va.	R. A. Blackford.	E. J. Stealey.	15	200	Yes	375	500					Yes	Dy.	200	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Cleveland, Ohio.	W. Doan.	A. J. Truesdell.	900	5,224	60	1,000	1,500	35,000	6,400	5,360		Yes	Dy.	200	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Clinton, Ill.	E. Kent.	C. C. Stone.												Dy.	200	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Clinton, Mass.	D. B. Ingalls.	C. Murdock.	103											Wy.	200	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Clyde, Ohio.	Basil Meek.	G. S. Richards.	40	40	Yes									Wy.	200	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Coshocton, Pa.	J. C. Gibson.	H. Crawford.	75	50	Yes									Wy.	200	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Cosburg, Ont., Ca.	A. Laws.	W. H. Begg.	60	500	Yes	500	1,900							3 wy.	200	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Columbus, O.	L. C. Butler.	L. W. Durgin.	170	565	Yes	136	150							3 wy.	200	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Concord, N. H.	M. B. Critchett.	S. H. Clary.	70		Yes									3 wy.	200	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Conway, Mass.	S. Wilder.	L. N. Cook.	39	39										Wy.	200	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.	D. E. Kohler.	Jas. Tanner.	85	1,959	40									Wy.	200	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Coshocton, Ohio.	L. D. Garrison.	Walter Shaw.												Wy.	200	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Coshocton, Ohio.	W. H. Robinson.	W. T. Robinson.	91	1,953	18	500	750							Wy.	200	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Council Bluffs, Iowa.	A. W. Street.	J. Little.	15	50	Yes									Wy.	200	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Cross Creek, Pa.	W. C. Anderson.	J. Windsor.	11											Wy.	200	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Dalhousie, N. S.	J. Little.	N. C. Smith.	80	6										Wy.	200	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Damascus, Ohio.	M. Bradford.													Wy.	200	Yes	Yes	Yes		

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ABBREVIATIONS. { B. W....Bi-weekly Meetings. Dy....Daily Meetings. Nd....Neighborhood or out-district Meetings. Wy....Weekly Meetings. Co.....Cottage Meetings. Mo.....Monthly Meetings. O.....Open-air Meetings. S. S....Sunday Schools.

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Grafton, Mass.	J. A. Dodge.	R. Tinker.	50	\$160	Yes	100	250				6	Dy & Wy	Yes	Yes	4	Yes		Yes
Grand Rapids, Mich.	H. J. Hollister.	E. Hoyt, Jr.	172	3,013	100	100	\$200					6 Wy.	Yes	Yes	4	No		No
Granville, Ohio.	P. J. Heriot.	Mrs. Blanchard.	70	120	120	150						R. W.	Yes	Yes				
Great Bend, Penn.	J. A. Jerome.	E. H. Newell.	25	45	45	30						2 wy.	Yes	Yes				
Great Village, N. S.	D. A. Davidson.	G. L. Peppard.	27	34	34	20						W. W.	Yes	Yes				
Greece City, Pa.	C. B. Wright.	H. U. Appenzeller.	25	50	50	103						W. W.	Yes	Yes				
Greencastle, Penn.	D. R. Keefe.	E. P. Hitchcock.	103	708	708	300	200					W. W.	Yes	Yes				
Greenfield, Mass.	S. L. Wiley.	J. D. Cameron.	58	708	708	300	200					W. W.	Yes	Yes				
Green Hill, N. S.	John T. Arthur.	J. D. Cameron.	58	708	708	300	200					W. W.	Yes	Yes				
Greenpoint, N. Y.	J. N. Seamus.	J. D. Armstrong.	72	46	46	100						W. W.	Yes	Yes				
Greenwich, O.	A. H. Bartlett.	O. S. Griffin.	206	624	624	400	150					W. W.	Yes	Yes				
Guelph, Ont., Ca.	E. W. McGuire.	L. L. Bates.	104	325	325	200	100					W. W.	Yes	Yes				
Hagerstown, Md.	W. S. Harbert.	H. C. Tice.	529	1,555	90	2,300	1,000					W. W.	Yes	Yes				
Hallfax, N. S.	J. B. Morrow.	A. Pastorsen.	36									W. W.	Yes	Yes				
Hallowell, Me.	Orlando Carrier.	F. A. A. Heath.	83	1,570	150	720						W. W.	Yes	Yes				
Hamilton, Ohio.	J. S. Renter.	J. McMan.	200	1,570	150	720						W. W.	Yes	Yes				
Hamilton, Ont.	A. Macmillan.	D. A. Sinclair.	48									W. W.	Yes	Yes				
Hanover, Ind.	C. S. Sharpless.	W. A. Hunter.	40	910	910	1,600	1,500					W. W.	Yes	Yes				
Hanover, Pa.	C. Young.	H. Atwood.	300	911	57	1,600	1,500					W. W.	Yes	Yes				
Harrisburg, Penn.	J. E. Patterson.	C. A. Kunkel.	33	50	50	100	200					W. W.	Yes	Yes				
Harwich, Mass.	Z. T. Spencer.	F. Emerson.	175									W. W.	Yes	Yes				
Haverhill, Mass.	S. L. B. Sparto.	C. A. Goodwill.	13	30	30	100	200					W. W.	Yes	Yes				
Heath, Mass.	L. G. Gould.	G. L. Dickinson.	13	30	30	100	200					W. W.	Yes	Yes				
Herman, Newmarket, Pa.	R. McMillan.	J. Weller.	13	30	30	100	200					W. W.	Yes	Yes				
Hidleville, N. J.	C. F. Deslier.	R. A. Atwell.	115	14	14	100	200					W. W.	Yes	Yes				
Holiston, Mass.	P. R. Newell.	J. S. Abbott.	30									W. W.	Yes	Yes				
Holyoke, Mass.	E. F. Whiting.	W. H. Clark.	30									W. W.	Yes	Yes				
	A. Andrews.	E. J. Fowrey.	30									W. W.	Yes	Yes				

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Paris, Ont.	W. E. Adams	John Brodie	65	\$75	Yes							Wy.	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Parker City, Pa.	W. J. McCullagh	S. A. Hughes	80			39	\$35					Wy.	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Parramore, Ga.	T. J. Seaman	B. N. Fullerton	29	25	Yes	39						Wy.	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Parramore, N. S.	B. N. Fullerton	E. Spencer	24									Wy.						
Peabody, Mass.	R. Lanson	G. N. Anthony	92															
Peekskill, N. Y.	W. D. Dyckman	J. J. Denike	51	640	20	620	1,200					Dy.	Yes	Yes	6			
Penn. College Gettysburg, Pa.	W. S. Freas	C. H. Traver	52									2 wy.	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Philadelphia, Penn.	John Wanamaker	Thos. Marshall	2,912	25,065	400	6,800	11,400	3,000	160,000	65,000	9 Dy.	Wy.	15 w.	3 wy.	Yes	Yes	5	
Pittsboro, N. S.	C. Primrose	Wm. Harris	170	838	Yes	224	120			2,724	3 wy.	3 wy.	15 w.	3 wy.	Yes			
Pittsburgh, Penn.	H. K. Porter	R. A. Orr	868	6,800	20	1,500	2,500				Yes	2 wy.	Yes	3 wy.	Yes			Yes
Plainfield, N. J.	C. W. Cowles	J. R. Perine	275	1,800	20	20	784	1,500			Yes	2 wy.	Yes	3 Nd.	Yes			Yes
Plantersville, Conn.	R. W. Covles	G. A. Kilborn	160	700	15	340	400				Yes	Yes	Yes	O. Co.	Yes			Yes
Pleasantville, Pa.	S. Q. Brown	J. J. B. Fink	126	164								Yes						
Plymouth, Mass.	W. R. Drew	J. Eddy, Jr.	50		Yes							Yes		Yes				
Plymouth, Pa.	Rev. Mr. White	A. P. Barbour	40		Yes							Yes						
Pondiac, Ill.	W. J. Murphy	W. J. Murphy	50									Yes						
Port Henry, N. Y.	J. W. Whitehead	J. Q. Rugg	46		Yes							Yes						
Port Hope, Ont.	Wm. Craig, Jr.	Robert Gray	159	650	25	100	100				Yes	2 wy.	18 Co.	Yes	Yes		Yes	
Portland, Me.	W. H. Hibbs	Wm. Shaylor	280	1,103	50	621	600				Yes	2 wy.	Yes	3 wy.	Yes	Yes		
Portsmouth, Ohio	Wm. Rhodes	W. H. Bonnell	915	900	60	765	1,500				Wy.	Wy.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	
Portsmouth, N. Y.	Mitchell Downing	H. V. Pelton	239	4,200	20	1,000	1,000	52,500	22,000			Wy.	10	4	Yes			
Princeton, N. S.	R. Laird	J. Ramsay	36	6								Wy.	Wy.	Co.				
Providence, R. I.	T. C. Chace	W. H. Anderson	1,000		175	4,500	3,500				Yes	Wy.	1,000	Wy.	Yes			Yes
Provincetown, Mass.	H. Shortle	R. W. Swift	85	50	20	130	200				Yes	Wy.	2,500	Wy.	Yes			
Quebec, Canada	H. Fry	J. Hamilton	307	670	30	603	550					Wy.		Wy.				
Quebec, Canada	J. D. Horton	F. W. B. Platt	75	54								Yes	Yes	9 wy.	Yes			Yes
Reading, Mass.	P. B. Conant	F. W. B. Platt	160	1,317	Yes						Yes	Wy.	Yes	Co.				
Reading, Pa.	J. H. Griggs	H. Z. Zacharias	48									Wy.						
Richmond, N. B.	H. H. Sternburg	J. Eckerley	48									Wy.						
River John, N. S.	J. R. Collicie	J. Mackonale	94	30		65						Wy.	Wy.	Wy.				

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Sydney, C. B.	J. E. Burchill.	A. Matheson.	58			200						Wy.	Wy.	Yes				
Tatamagouche, N. S.	A. Campbell.	W. A. Patterson.	18			5.						Wy.	Wy.	Co.				
Temperanceville, Pa.	D. R. Harris.	J. A. Calhoun.	24	\$50	Yes						Yes	Wy.						
Tidoute, Pa.	R. Gregg.		30		Yes							Wy.						
Tiffin, Ohio.	S. J. Kirkwood.	N. L. Brewer.	60		Yes	300						Wy.						
Titusville, Pa.	C. W. Archibald.	C. M. Coburn.	75	2,500	Yes	101					15 Dy 3 wy.	Wy.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Toledo, Ohio.	Charles Douglass.	T. A. Nelson.	300	3,400	65	1,220	\$1,100	45,000	5,000	10,000	Yes 2 Dy.	Yes 2 Dy.	75	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Toronto, Ont.	J. Macdonald.	T. J. Wilkie.	520	1,615	450	3,200	4,500			40,000	Dy.	Dy.	5 wy.	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Trenton, N. J.	J. C. Brown.	J. C. Owens.	339	1,500	50	50				1,500	2 wy.	My.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Troy, Ohio.	J. N. Hoagland.	L. V. Ferris.	25	200	8							2 wy.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Turro, N. S.	William Cummings.	J. H. Kent.	50									Wy.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Turtle Creek, Pa.	A. Lewis.	J. S. Stewart.	25	100	Yes			2,500			Yes 2 wy.	Yes 2 wy.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Tyrone, Penn.	H. Gryder.	C. J. Kegeel.	37	107														
Union City, Erie Co., Pa.	L. B. Hill.	J. F. Read.	80	175							Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Union Corners, Tidoute, Pa.	J. S. McChenney.		25															
Uniontown, Pa.	A. P. Bowie.	A. W. Boyd.	90	200	Yes							Wy.	Wy.	Co.				
Upper Londonderry.	R. S. Shaw.	J. Fleming.	24	25								Wy.	Wy.	Co.				
Upper Norton, N. B.	L. N. Gorge.	M. Macleod.	19									Wy.	Wy.	Co.				
Upper Steerslake, N. S.	W. Bentley.	W. F. Cox.	95	12		50						Wy.	Wy.	Co.	Yes			
Upper N. Y.	John Ryals.	G. E. Allen.	135	15								Wy.	Wy.	Co.	Yes			
Walden, N. Y.	M. Schoonmaker.	T. W. Bradley.	57	400	12	50						Wy.	Wy.	Co.				
Walworth, Ont.	J. Agerton.																	
Walworth, Ont.	D. Ruckman.	M. P. Hostle.	30									Wy.	Wy.	Co.				
Walton, N. S.	A. B. Tripp.	M. L. Henry.	55															
Warren, Mass.	W. M. Lindaley.	F. Hurter.	75	900	Yes	1,000					Yes	Wy.	150	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Washington, D. C.	F. H. Smith.	James Meldrum.	986	12,570	450	14,000	13,000	80,000		19,000	Yes	3 dy.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Washington, Pa.	F. H. Brady.	R. Winter.	25	300	Yes						Yes	Wy.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Waukegan, Ill.	G. H. Cawell.	D. L. Camp.	40	300							Yes	Wy.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Watertown, N. Y.	C. O. Matley.	W. M. Penniman.	68	800		300					Yes	Dy.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Waterville, N. S.	C. J. Maxwell.	C. Irving.	69	8			300				Yes	Dy.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Waynesboro, Pa.	J. Price.	M. E. Eyer.	64	150	Yes	70			Yes Wy.	Ce.	Yes	Yes
Wheatley, Pa.	De Witt.	Rev. Webster	25						Yes Wy.	Yes	Yes	
Wheatville, Ohio.	A. P. Howard.	F. Sheets	106	100					Wy.	Ce.	Yes	
West Amesbury, Mass.	J. D. Pike	G. S. Hoyt.	154	280	Yes				Wy.	2 Nd.		
Westboro, Mass.	S. Chamberlain.	G. E. Moses.	160	300	Yes				Wy.	3 Nd.		
W. Boston, Mass. (colored)	J. H. Smith											
West Charlotte, Vt.	H. J. Carpenter	W. S. Yale	35		20				Wy.	Nd.		
Westchester, Pa.	J. Lent	J. E. MacMillan.	20									
Westerville, R. I.	R. F. Latimer.	A. C. Thompson.	150	1,500	35				Wy.	30 14 Nd		
West Fairview, Pa.	J. Minaker	C. Williams.	40	30					Wy.	Yes		
Westfield, Mass.	E. B. Smith.	H. Lyman	115	800	Yes				Dy. & Wy.	O.		
West Greenville, Pa.	J. C. Brown.	J. C. Miller	60	200	Yes				Yes	Yes		
West River, N. S.	M. Maclean	David Miller	14	10					Wy.	Ce. SS		Yes
Wheeling, N. S.	W. S. Frazer	G. Hattie	30						Wy.	Yes		
Wheeling, W. Virginia	J. W. Ullrich	A. T. Wincher	40	950	Yes				B. M.	2 wy.		
Whitehall, N. Y.	E. A. Martin.	H. Root.	55	300	12				Wy.	S. S.		
White Plains, Ala.	R. C. Johnson	L. D. Scarborough.	94						2 wy.			
Willbraham, Mass.	E. Cooke, D.D.	Rev. Howard							Yes Wy.	Yes	2	Yes
Williamsport, Pa.	E. H. Blair	W. A. Hemingway.	180		Yes				Yes	Wy.		
Winnaboro, S. C. (colored)	J. D. Smart.	M. V. Blake.	63	15					3 wy.	Nd.	Yes	Yes
Winthrop, Me.	L. Jones	H. Woodward	79		Yes				Wy.	Yes	Yes	Yes
Woodstock, N. B.	S. L. Churchill	J. A. Thompson	98	20	12				Wy.	S. S.		
Woodstock, Ont.	Wm. Edwards	T. S. McCall.	60						Wy.	Wy.		
Woolville, N. S.	D. McNeill.	J. Macdonald	30	3					2, 100 Yes D. 2 wy.	Wy		Yes
Worcester, Mass.	C. D. Tucker	R. F. Upham	833	4,000	Yes				Yes	Yes	13	Yes
Xenia, Ohio.	Rev. P. C. Prugh	S. Newton.	590	500	Yes				5 Yes	Yes		Yes
Yarmouth, Mass.	J. B. Clark	E. D. Faine							Wy.	Yes		
Yarmouth, N. S.	Freeman Dennis	Jas. R. Hart.	63	233	25				5,000	Ce.	Yes	
York, Pa.	D. E. Small	J. N. Clark.	214	712	Yes				2 wy.	Ce.	Yes	
Zanesville, Ohio	R. S. James.	E. R. Sullivan.	200		Yes				6,000	S. S.		

REPORTS OF FOREIGN ASSOCIATIONS.

Leeds, England	Marq. of Ripon, K G.	Henry Thorne	830	\$5,000	200	3,500	\$2,000	25,000	10,000	Yes 3 Wy.	60 8 Cds	Yes 17 Wy
Liverpool, England	Alex. Balfour	Sam. J. Nash	739	4,500	Yes	1,100	1,000	15,000	3,000	3 Wy.	200 7 wy.	Yes 15 Wy
Londonderry, Ireland	Jos. Cooke	Jas. Johnston	387	1,200	130	800	1,000	15,000	3,000	Wy. M. Y.	25 S. S.	
Paris, France											10	
French Branch	Chas. Friedel	P. V. Rouget	46	400	Yes	400				Yes		
English Branch	H. H. Shepper	P. V. Rouget	100	1,500	20	500	175					
Rome, Italy												
Eng. & American Branch	H. R. Waite.	C. H. Vanderhoff	32	800	20	300	400			Wy.	Yes	Yes
Italian Branch			40								Yes	Yes

ERRATUM: Page 46, for Amherst, N. Y., read Amherst, Mass.

Cr. **PROVINCES**, in account with their Treasurer, for the Year ending July 7, 1873. **Dr.**

Money on hand at beginning of year.....	\$1,412 43
Subscriptions for General Expenses for 1869..	\$30 00
" " 1871..	135 00
" " 1872 .	3,526 00
" " ————	3,711 00
" for Report of Convention, 1871..	\$69 50
" " 1872..	265 25
" —————	384 75
Sales of Life Membership Certificates.....	38 45
" Songs of Devotion, from Nov. 1, 1872.....	287 58
Sundries.....	1 00
Repaid by Association <i>Monthly</i>	167 40
—————	
	\$5,952 61

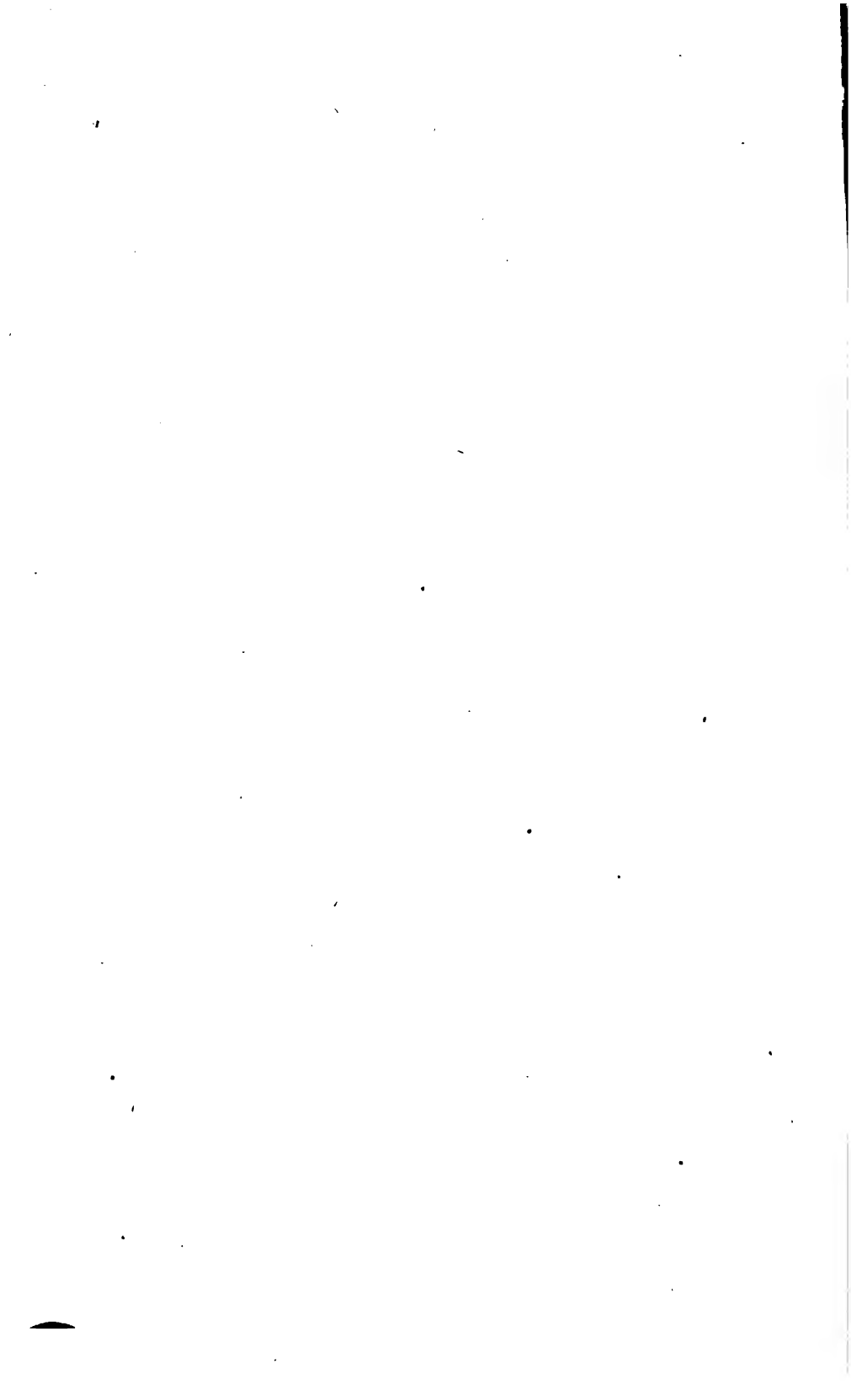
Audited and found correct.

F. D. TAYLOR.

Chairman of Committee on the Executive Committee's Report.

SUBSCRIPTIONS PAID IN DURING YEAR ENDING JULY 7, 1873.

	Gen. Ex.	Report.		Gen. Ex.	Report.
Akron, Ohio.....	\$15 00		Manchester, N. H.....	\$10 00	\$2 50
Ashland, Ohio.....	10 00	\$2 50	Middletown, Conn.....	10 00	
Auburn, Me.....	5 00	2 50	Milford, Conn.....	10 00	1 00
Aurora, Ill.....		10 00	Minneapolis, Minn.....	15 00	2 50
Aurora, Ind.....	5 00	2 50	Montclair, N. J.....	10 00	5 00
Batavia, Ill.....	5 00	1 50	Montpelier, Vt.....	10 00	1 00
Beverly, Mass.....	10 00		Newark, N. J.....		25 00
Boston, Mass.....	200 00	12 50	New York.....	1505 00	25 00
Bristol, R. I.....	25 00	7 50	North Brookfield, Mass.....	5 00	1 00
Brooklyn, N. Y.....	250 00	12 50	Oberlin, Ohio.....		1 00
Brookville, Pa.....	10 00	5 00	Peru, Ohio.....		50
Burlington, Vt.....	20 00	5 00	Philadelphia, Pa.....	300 00	50 00
Chagrin Falls, Ohio.....	10 00	1 50	Pictou, N. S.....	10 00	4 00
Charlestown, Mass.....	20 00		Pittsburgh, Pa.....	150 00	
Charlottetown, Pr. Ed.			Plantsville, Conn.....		2 50
Island.....	20 00	2 50	Port Hope, Canada.....	5 00	2 00
Cincinnati, Ohio.....	200 00	12 50	Portland, Me.....	20 00	2 50
Cleveland, Ohio.....	100 00	10 00	Poughkeepsie, N. Y.....	30 00	3 00
Concord, N. H.....	40 00	1 00	Rutland, Vt.....	20 00	5 00
Cortlandt, N. Y.....	5 00	2 50	Salem, Mass.....	25 00	2 50
Dayton, Ohio.....	25 00	1 00	San Francisco, Cal.....		5 00
Dunbar, Pa.....	5 00	1 00	Selma, Ala.....	40 00	5 00
Easton, Pa.....	70 00		Shippensburg, Pa.....	5 00	1 50
East Saginaw, Mich.....	5 00	2 50	Spencer, Mass.....	10 00	2 50
Fitchburg, Mass.....	5 00	2 50	Springdale, Ohio.....	10 00	1 00
Goshen, N. Y.....	15 00	2 50	Toledo, Ohio.....	40 00	12 50
Greenfield, Mass.....	1 00		Toronto, Can.....	30 00	12 50
Halifax, N. S.....	50 00		Trenton, N. J.....	20 00	7 50
Holden, Mass.....	10 00	1 00	Union City, Pa.....	5 00	
Holliston, Mass.....		1 00	Wakefield, Mass.....	5 00	1 00
Howard University, Wash-			Washington, D. C.....	100 00	12 50
ington, D. C.....	5 00		Waterville, Me.....	5 00	
Indianapolis, Ind.....	50 00		West Charlotte, Vt.....		1 00
Janeville, Wis.....	10 00	2 50	Wheeling, W. Va.....	10 00	1 50
Johnstown, Pa.....	3 00	2 00	Wilton, N. H.....	2 00	1 00
Lancaster, Pa.....	10 00	2 50	Worcester, Mass.....	25 00	2 50
Lowell, Mass.....	5 00	50	York, Pa.....	15 00	2 50
Lynchburg, Va.....		1 00	Sale.....		1 25
Lynn, Mass.....	25 00	14 00			
Madison, Wis.....	10 00	2 50			
				\$3711 00	\$334 75



LIST OF THE ASSOCIATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES AND BRITISH PROVINCES.

THE NAMES OF THOSE REPORTING TO THE POUGHKEEPSIE CONVENTION ARE
PRINTED IN ITALIC, THE NAMES OF THE OTHERS IN ROMAN LETTERS.

BERMUDA.
Hamilton Parish,
Harrington.

CANADA.

Barrie,
Belleville,
Berlin,
Bowmansville,
Brantford,
Brockville,
Coburg,
Craigvale,
Fergus,
Galt,
Guelph,
Hamilton,
Ingersoll,
Kincardine,
Lindsay,
London,
Millbrook,
Montreal,
Napanee,
Oakville,
Orillia,
Ottawa,
Owen Sound,
Paisley,
Parrsboro,
Paris,
Port Hope,
Quebec,
St. Catharines,
St. Thomas,
St. Stephen,
Toronto,
Walkerton,
Welland,
Woodstock.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Bathurst,
Campbelltown,
Central Norton,
Chatham,
Dalhousie,
Fredericton,
Mirimichi,
Newcastle,
Richibucto,
St. Andrews,

St. John,
St. Stephen,
Upper Norton,
Woodstock.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Albion Mines,
Amherst,
Antigonish,
Baddeck,
Brookland,
Caledonia,
Canard,
Cape George,
Cape John,
Cariboo River.
Clifton,
Churchville,
Dalhousie,
Dartmouth,
Durham,
Faneuil Hall,
Fisher's Grant,
Goldsville,
Glenelg,
Great Village, Lond'ry
Green Hill,
Guysborough,
Halifax,
Hermon Church,
Hopeville,
Kentville,
Little Harbor,
Liverpool,
Loading Ground,
Lower Barney's River,
Londonderry,
Lyons Brook,
Maitland,
Marshville,
Marshy Hope,
Merigonish,
Meagher's Grant,
Middle Musquodoboit,
Middleton,
Middle Stewiacke,
Millsville,
Mt. Thorn,
Musquodoboit Harbor,
Newport,
New Glasgow,
North Sydney,

Northeast Margaree,
Parrsboro,
Pictou,
Portapique,
Princetown,
River John,
Rocklin,
Rogers Hill,
Salt Springs,
Salem Church,
Scotsburn,
Scotshill,
Sherbrooke,
Springside,
Springville,
Stewiacke,
Sunnybrae,
Sutherland River,
Sydney, C. B.,
Tatamagouche,
Truro,
Upper Londonderry,
Stewiacke,
Wallace,
Waterville,
Waterville,
West River,
Westville,
Windsor,
Woodville,
Yarmouth,

PR. EDWARDS ISLAND.
Charlottetown.

ALABAMA.

Birmingham,
Columbiana,
Gadsden,
Huntsville,
Jacksonville,
Marion,
Montgomery,
Opelika,
Selma,
Tuscaloosa,
Union Springs,
Uniontown,
White Plains.

CALIFORNIA.

San Francisco,

San Jose,
Stockton.

COLORADO.
Grass Valley,
Marysville.

CONNECTICUT.
Ansonia,
Bridgeport,
Bristol,
Colchester,
Goshen,
Guilford,
Meriden,
Middletown,
Milford,
Mystic Bridge,
New Haven,
New London,
North Stonington,
Plantville,
Putnam,
Stamford,
Waterbury,
Winsted.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.
Georgetown,
Howard University,
Washington.
Washington, (Col'd),
East Washington.

FLORIDA.
Jacksonville.

GEORGIA.
Athens (State Univ'ty),
Augusta.

ILLINOIS.
Arcola,
Aurora,
Batavia,
Bloomington,
" Wesleyan Un'ty,
Brimfield,
Butler,
Cairo,
Carbondale,
Carthage (College),
Charleston,
Champaign,
" Indus. Univ'ty,
Chicago,
Clinton,
Dixon,
Dupage Township,
Elgin,
Evanston,
Galesburg,
" (Scandinavian),

Jacksonville,
Lexington, "
Lincoln,
Mason City,
Mendota,
Moline,
Monmouth,
Morris,
Naperville, N. W. Col.
Normal (Normal U'ty),
Olney,
Peoria,
Plainfield,
Princeville,
Pontiac,
Quincy,
Rock Falls,
Rockford,
Shawneetown,
Shelbyville,
St. Charles,
Urbana,
Washburn,
Wilmington.

INDIANA.
Aurora,
Camanche,
Crawfordsville,
Delphi,
Fort Wayne,
" (German),
Franklin,
Greencastle,
Greenfield,
Hanover,
Howard,
Indianapolis,
Jeffersonville,
Michigan City,
" German,
Mishawaka,
New Albany.
Seymour.

IOWA.
Boonsboro,
Burlington,
Clinton,
Council Bluffs,
Davenport,
Des Moines,
Dubuque,
Eddyville,
Fort Dodge,
Iowa City,
Keokuk,
Moquoketa,
Marion,
Marshalltown,
Monticello,
Mt. Vernon,
Oscalooosa,
Ottumway,

Pella,
Tabor,
Waterloo,
West Branch,
Wilton,

KANSAS,
Atchison,
Junction,
Lawrence,
Leavenworth,

KENTUCKY,
Covington,
Lexington,
Louisville,
" (German).

LOUISIANA.
New Orleans,

MAINE.
Auburn,
Augusta,
Bath,
Belfast,
Biddeford,
Bridgeton,
Brunswick,
East Vassalboro,
Eliot,
Farmington,
Fryeburg,
Gardiner,
Hallowell,
Leeds,
Lewiston,
Monmouth,
North Berwick,
Portland,
Richmond,
Rockland,
Searsport,
Waterville,
Wayne,
Winthrop,
Yarmouth.

MARYLAND.
Annapolis, (St. John's
College),
Baltimore,
Bladensburg,
Frederick City,
Hagerstown,
Harrisonville,
Laurel,
Lutherville,
Mechanicstown,
Woodsboro.

MASSACHUSETTS.
Abington Centre,
Amesbury;

Amherst College,
Andover,
 Ashburnham,
Ashland,
Athol,
Attleboro,
Barre,
Ballardvale,
Belchertown,
 Bernardston,
Beverly,
Blackstone,
Boston,
 Boston Highlands,
 Brookfield,
 Cambridge,
 Cambridgeport,
Charlestown,
 Chicopee,
 Chelsea,
Clinton,
Conway,
East Abington,
 East Boston,
East Cambridge,
East Hampton,
East Somerville,
East Weymouth,
Fall River,
Fitchburg,
 Foxboro,
Gardner,
Gloucester,
Grafton,
Greenfield,
Harwich,
Hatfield,
Haverhill,
Heath,
Holden,
Holliston,
Holyoke,
Hopkinton,
Hubbardstown,
 Lawrence,
Leominster,
Leicester,
Lovell,
Lynn,
Marlboro,
Marblehead,
Medford,
Medway,
Milford,
Nantucket,
Natick,
 Newburyport,
 Newton Corner,
New Bedford,
 New Ipswich,
Northampton,
North Brookfield,
North Wrentham,
 Norwood,

Oakham,
Orange,
 Paxton,
Peabody,
Plymouth,
Provincetown,
Reading,
 Riverdale,
Rockport,
Rutland,
 Salisbury,
Salem,
Sandwich,
 Saxonville,
Shelburne Falls,
 Somerville,
South Boston,
 South Danvers,
South Deerfield,
South Gardner,
 South Hadley,
 South Boston,
South Reading,
 South Weymouth,
Spencer,
Springfield,
Stoneham,
Sunderland,
 Taunton,
 Topfield,
 Wakefield,
Warren,
 Webster,
 Wellsby,
West Amesbury,
Westboro,
West Boston, (col'd.)
 West Brookfield,
 West Newton,
Westfield,
 Westminster,
 Weymouth,
 Williams College,
Wilbraham,
 Windham,
 Winchester,
 Woburn,
Worcester,
Yarmouth.

MICHIGAN.

Adrian,
 Allegan,
 Alpena,
 Ann Harbor,
 Battle Creek,
 Bay City,
 Charlotte,
 Corunna,
Detroit,
 East Saginaw,
 Eaton Rapids,
Grand Rapids,
 Greenville,

Hillsdale,
 Holly,
Ionia,
 Jackson,
 Kalamazoo,
 Lansing Normal School
 Marquette,
 Marshall,
Michigan University,
Ann Harbor,
 Munroe,
Niles,
Olivet College,
 Pontiac,
 Port Huron,
 St. Clair,
 Ypsilanti.

MINNESOTA.

Anoka,
 Austin,
 Hastings,
 Minneapolis,
Owatonna,
Rochester,
St. Paul,
 St. Anthony or E. Minneapolis.

MISSOURI.

Hannibal,
Kansas City,
 Kirksville,
 Sedalia,
 Springfield,
 Warrensburg.

MISSISSIPPI.

Columbus.

NEBRASKA.

Fremont,
 Kansas City,
 Nebraska City,
 Omaha.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Candia,
Canterbury,
 Claremont,
Concord,
 Dover,
 Exeter,
 Francetown,
 Farmington,
 Goshen,
 Hampton,
 Hillsboro Bridge,
 Laconia,
Manchester,
 Meriden,
 Milford,
 Nashua,
 New Boston,

Newcastle,
New Ipswich,
New Market,
Portsmouth,
Sandwich,
Salmon Falls,
Seabrook,
Wilton Temple.

NEW JERSEY.

Bayonne City,
Bergen,
Beverly,
Boonton,
Bordentown,
Bridgeton,
Burlington,
Camden,
Dover,
Elizabeth,
Elizabethport,
Freehold,
Hackensack,
Hackettstown,
Hightstown,
Hudson City,
Jersey City,
Jersey City, (Hedding),
Lambertsville,
Lawrenceville,
Madison,
Mattewan,
Metuchin,
Montclair,
Newark,
New Brunswick,
Newton,
Orange,
Plainfield,
Rockaway,
Roseville,
South Orange,
Trenton,
Vineland,
West Hoboken,
Westfield,
Whitinsville.

NEW YORK.

Adams,
Albany,
Amsterdam,
Astoria,
Auburn,
Aurora,
Binghamton,
Brooklyn,
Brooklyn, E. D.,
Buffalo,
Canandaigua,
Carthage,
Cornell University,
(Ithaca),
Cortland,

East Brooklyn,
Elmira,
Fort Plain,
Fulton,
Geneva,
Goshen,
Green Point,
Hempstead,
Hoosic Falls,
Hudson,
Ithaca,
Little Falls,
Malone,
Middletown,
Millbrook,
Moravia,
Mt. Kisco,
Newburgh,
Newtown,
New Utrecht,
New York City,
" Bowery Branch,
" Harlem "
" Eastern "
" Yorkville "
" Yonkers "
" German Assoc'n,
" Colored "
North Shore, S. I.,
Nyack,
Ogdensburg,
Oswego,
Peekskill,
Phoenix,
Poughkeepsie,
Rochester University,
Rome,
Saratoga Springs,
Schenectady,
Syracuse,
Utica,
Walden,
Watertown,
Weedsport,
Whitehall.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Charlotte,
Fayetteville,
Goldsborough,
Raleigh,
Wilmington (German),

OHIO.

Akron,
Ashland,
Ashtabula,
Bellevue,
Bellair,
Brooklyn,
Bucyrus,
Cambridge,
Canton,
Chagrin Falls,
Chandlersville,

Chardon,
Chillicothe,
Cincinnati,
Circleville,
Cleveland,
Clyde,
Columbus,
Columbiana,
Coshocton,
Damascus,
Damascoville,
Dayton,
Delaware,
East Fairfield,
" Liverpool,
Elyria,
Elmore,
Findlay,
Fredericktown,
Fremont,
Galion,
Genera,
Granville,
Greenwich,
Hamilton,
Hillsboro,
Ironton,
Kenton,
Lexington,
Lima,
Lockland,
Lucas,
Mansfield,
Marion,
Martin's Ferry,
Massillon,
Medina,
Middletown,
Mt. Gilead,
Mt. Union,
Mt. Vernon,
Newburgh,
Norwalk,
Oberlin,
Ohio Penitentiary,
Oxford,
Painesville,
Portsmouth,
Ridgeville,
Ravenna,
Ripley,
Salem,
Sandusky,
Sheffield,
Shelby,
Springdale,
Springfield,
Stuebenville,
Tiffin,
Toledo,
Trenton,
Troy,
Urbana,
Walnut Hills,

*Widessville,
Xenia,
Youngstown,
Zanesville.*

OREGON.
Portland.

PENNSYLVANIA.

*Altoona,
Beaver Falls,
Belfonte,
Bethlehem,
Blairsville,
Bristol,
Brookville,
Burgettstown,
Butler,
Canal,
Candor,
Carlisle,
Centerville,
Chambersburg,
Cheltenham,
Chester,
Clearfield,
Coatesville,
Connellsville,
Cross Creek,
Crescent,
Dantville,
Downingtown,
Doylestown,
Dunbar,
East Hickory,
Easton,
Ebensburg,
Emlenton,
Eric,
Florence,
Forsburg,
Frankford,
Franklin,
Freeport,
Germantown,
Gettysburg,
Great Bend,
Greencastle,
Greece City,
Hanover,
Harrisburg,
Hermon,
Hopewell,
Hughtsville,
Hulmeville,
Huntingdon,
Jersey Shore,
Johnstown,
Kensington,
Lafayette Col., Easton,
Lancaster,
Lebanon,
McKeysport,
Manheim,*

*Mercer.
Middletown,
Mill Creek,
Millersburg,
Mt. Jackson,
Mt. Joy,
Mt. Pleasant,
Nazareth,
New Alexandria,
Newburgh,
New Cumberland,
New Sheffield,
Newville,
No. Wolf Creek,
Orrstown,
Parker City,
Pennsylvania College,
(Gettysburg),
Philadelphia,
Philadelphia, (Col'd.),
Pittsburgh,
Pleasantville,
Plymouth,
Reading,
Rouseville,
Scranton,
Sharon,
Sheakleyville,
Shippensburg,
Shrewsbury,
Susquehanna Depot,
Temperanceville,
Tidioute,
Titusville,
Tunkhannock,
Turtle Creek,
Tyrone,
Union City,
Union Corners,
Uniontown,
Warren,
Washington,
Wattsburg,
Waynesboro,
Weatherby,
Westchester,
West Fairview,
West Greenville,
Wilkesbarre,
Williamsport,
Wurtemburg,
York,
Young Men's Union,
(Philadelphia).*

RHODE ISLAND.

*Bristol,
Pawtucket,
Providence,
Westerly.*

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Charleston, (Col'd).
" "

*Chester, (Col'd).
Columbia, "
" "
Cokeburg, "
Dutch Fork, "
Florence, "
Georgetown, "
Greenwood, "
Newburg, "
Smithville, "
Summersville, "
Winnboro, "
Yorkville, "
Lexington, "
Mt. Pleasant, "
Mt. Zion, "
New Hope. "*

TENNESSEE.

*Athens (Wes. Univ.),
Bristol,
Clarkesville,
Greenville,
Knoxville, (E. Tennes-
see University.*

TEXAS.

*Houston,
Rockport.*

VERMONT.

*Bradford,
Bridport,
Bristol,
Brownsville,
Burlington,
Charlotte,
East Middlebury,
Fairfax,
Fairhaven,
Fairlie,
Felchville,
Hubbardston,
Lincoln,
Ludlow,
Manchester,
Montpelier,
North Bennington,
Norwich,
Orwell,
Peacham,
Persi,
Poultney,
Salisbury,
Shoreham,
Springfield,
St. Johnsbury,
Sudbury,
Townsend,
Underhill Centre,
Vergennes,
Waterbury,
Waterbury Centre,
West Charlotte,*

LXVIII

Weston,
Weybridge,
Wilmington,
Windham,
Windsor,
Winooski.

VIRGINIA.

Alexandria,
Christianburg,
Emery.
Lynchburg,
Marion,
Norfolk,
Richmond,
Roanoke Col'ge, Salem,

Virginia Military In-
stitute,
Warwick.

WEST VIRGINIA.

Charlestown,
Charlottesville (Vir-
ginia University),
Clarksburg,
Fairmont,
Grafton,
Kanawa Salines,
Malden,
Maudeville,
Morgantown, (Univ'ty
of W. Va.),
Moundville,

Parkersburg,
Point Pleasant,
Wheeling.

WISCONSIN.

Beaver Dam,
Beloit,
Fort Howard,
Janesville,
Madison,
Maquokato,
Portage City,
Prescott,
Racine,
Ripon,
White Water.

ERRATA.

In the List of Associations, beginning with page LXIII, the following are contained, which, however, are not enrolled among the Associations entitled to representation at the International Conventions; some because they do not conform to the resolutions, passed at the Detroit and Portland Conventions, respecting the evangelical test of membership; and the rest because they have not furnished the Executive Committee with copies of their Constitutions, as required by the resolution adopted at the Washington Convention:

Parrsboro, Can.	East Hickory, Pa.	Union Corners, Pa.
Dalhousie, N. B.	Ebensburg, "	Weatherby, "
St. Stephen, "	Gettysburg, "	West Greenville, "
Parrsboro, N. S.	Greece City, "	Chester, S. C.
Amherst Coll., Mass.	Hughesville, "	Dutch Forks, "
Camanche, Ind.	Huntington, "	Smithville, "
Gloucester, Mass.	Millersburg, "	Summersville, "
Hempstead, N. Y.	Mount Jackson, "	Mount Zion, "
Widesville, O.	New Cumberland, "	Mount Pleasant, "
Bristol, Pa.	Newville, "	New Hope, "
Butler, "	North Wolf Creek, "	Maquokato, Wis.
Canal, "	Orrstown, "	

To the list, beginning with page LXIII, should be added the following Associations:

Richmond, N. B.	Greenwich, N. Y.	Tamaqua, Pa.
Upper Stewiacke, N. S.	Little Britain, "	Westfield, "
Danielsonville, Conn.	Nicholsville, "	Whiteland, "
Morris, "	Ogden Centre, "	Wilksone, "
Norwalk, "	Owego, "	Wilksburg, "
Rockville, "	Palmyra, "	Wolf Creek, "
Camanche, Iowa.	Phelps, "	Spartansburg, S. C.
Manhattan, Kan.	Plattsburg, "	Sumpter, "
East Gloucester, Mass.	Richmond, "	Yorkville, "
Middleboro, "	Riverhead, "	Berlin, Vt.
No. Bridgewater, "	Spring Valley, "	Brandon, "
Yarmouthport, "	Whitehall, "	Brattleboro, "
Duluth, Minn.	Wayne, "	Johnstown, "
Mankato, "	Wilmington, N. C.	Middlebury, "
Redwing, "	Wellsville, O.	Mount Holly, "
Batavia, N. Y.	Beaver, Pa.	Pittsford, "
Brewsters Station, "	Bloomsburg, "	Rutland, "
Camden, "	E. Whiteland, "	Stowe, "
Canastota, "	Lycoming Creek, "	W. Rutland, "
Delhi, "	New Milford, "	Woodstock, "
Dobb's Ferry, "	North East, "	Washington & Lee University, Lexington, Va.
East New York, "	Petroleum Centre, "	

To the list of subscriptions, on pp. 66-68, should be added the following: Belchertown, Mass., same as last year; Pennsylvania Coll., \$5; Germantown, Pa., 10 copies; Goshen, N. Y., \$10; Lowell, \$5 (additional); Meriden, Conn., 4 copies.

(After Mirimichi, N. B.), C. D. Tucker, \$5; Geo. H. Allen, \$5; H. M. Moore, \$15.

E. Brooklyn, \$20, 10 copies; New York, Bowery Br., \$26, 2 copies; New York, 50 copies.

(After Olivet, Mich.), 5 copies, and M. S. Crosby, \$5.

Plantville, Conn., \$15.

(After Po'keepsie, N. Y.), Geo. H. Allen, \$5; Jno. Dooley, \$5; Mrs. Fox, \$10; E. P. Woods, for Vassar Coll., \$5; A. W. Boler, \$10; G. A. Hall, \$5. Rochester Min., N. T., should be Rochester University, N. Y.

(After Selma, Ala.), R. Weidensall, \$1.

Trenton, N. J., 1 copy; Westfield, Mass., 1 copy.

(After Worcester, Mass.), G. C. Whitney, \$10.

(After York, Pa.), H. A. Wheeler, \$5.

Also, as individual subscriptions: L. R. Sargent, \$5; D. W. Glass, \$10; E. A. Buck, \$10; F. H. Revell, \$25; H. H. Otto, \$25; Cash, in various sums, \$81.50.

Several coins, &c., were sold as follows: An English Sovereign to C. D. Tucker for \$60; A Mexican Dollar to R. K. Remington for \$7; An English Sovereign to C. D. Tucker for \$37.50; A Syrian Coin to H. H. Otto for \$5.50; A Chinese Coin to G. C. Whitney for \$3; A Syrian Coin to Mr. Lockwood for \$10; a Cabinet of Fossils to C. D. Tucker for \$20; A Cabinet of Fossils to O. O. Howard for \$20; A Pen to C. D. Tucker for \$5.

Members of the General Executive Committee.

Appointed at Lowell, June 14th, 1872, for Three Years.

Located in New York.

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JAMES STOKES, JR.,	104 John Street
TIMOTHY G. SELLEW, JR.,	103 Fulton Street
ROBERT R. MCBURNEY,	Y. M. C. A. Building, 23d St., and 4th Ave.
EDGAR HUTCHINS,	37 Pine Street
BENJAMIN C. WETMORE,	9 Pine Street
VERRANUS MORSE, M. D.,	271 Carlton Ave., Brooklyn.

RICHARD C. MORSE, *General Secretary,*

At the Office of the Committee, cor. 23d St. and 4th Ave., N. Y.

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1892-1893

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